

REMARKS**REMARKS -GENERAL-**

1) Applicant respectfully requests full consideration of the arguments submitted herein, as they fully support Applicant's belief that the finality of last O.A. was premature.

2) Applicant very respectfully submits, that in view of what is perceived as some oversights by the Office that are adversely affecting the prosecution of this case, applicant is using bold and larger type in certain responses, as captions and headings to call for especial attention.

Applicant requests the Office's understanding about this practice, with the assurance that the intention is to procure a better communication in the most respectful manner.

3) Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the finality of previous Office Action, as Amendment B included valid reasons to rebut patentability rejections. Amendment B also included a new set of claims patentable over any cited references. **And additionally**, this Amendment C includes yet more evidence about a) "what the invention is", b) the differences between the invention and the cited references, and other arguments, and it also includes amended claims providing even further limitations. Please, see MPEP 706.07 (d)

4) Likewise, applicant respectfully requests that the substitute specification submitted with Amendment B be entered, for the reasons explained in the Arguments section of this amendment.

5) Applicant very respectfully submits that all the arguments submitted herewith are primary to the objections or rejections that they address.

6) New Attachments 15-31 are submitted, as follows:

ATTACHMENT 15: An illustrated discussion of "What the Invention Is"

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

ATTACHMENT 16: An illustrated discussion about "How to Use the Invention"

ATTACHMENT 17: Cross reference of substitute specification with original specification.

ATTACHMENT 18: A downloaded image of a pre-printed blank check, for use with laser or inkjet printers, retrieved from:

[Http://www.nebs.com/ecatimages/full/9209.gif](http://www.nebs.com/ecatimages/full/9209.gif)

ATTACHMENT 19: A downloaded image of a pre-printed blank account statement for use with laser or inkjet printers, retrieved from:

<http://www.nebs.com/ecatimages/full/13446T.gif>

ATTACHMENT 20: Photocopy of back panel of "Self Seal Mailer's" package by Avery Dennison, showing the mode of operation.

ATTACHMENT 21: Illustrated comparison of Schieman's first embodiment with this invention.

ATTACHMENT 22: Illustrated comparison of Schieman's second embodiment with this invention.

ATTACHMENT 23: Illustrated comparison of Wilbur's first embodiment with this invention.

ATTACHMENT 24: Illustrated comparison of Wilbur's second embodiment with this invention.

ATTACHMENT 25: Updated illustrated comparison of Schieman's first embodiment's construction with this invention.

ATTACHMENT 26: Updated illustrated comparison of Schieman's second embodiment's construction with this invention.

ATTACHMENT 27: Updated illustrated comparison of both Schieman's embodiments number of layers with this invention's.

ATTACHMENT 28: Illustrated comparison of both Wilbur's embodiments number of

layers with this invention's.

ATTACHMENT 29: Updated Illustrated comparison of paper used (Envelope + Form vs. Self Sealing Form/ '215)

ATTACHMENT 30: Updated illustrated comments to first embodiment

ATTACHMENT 31: List of amended claims, consolidated with their dependents.

7) A working prototype (model) of the invention is filed with a petition under 37 C.F.R. 1.91(a)(3) . The model is submitted inside an unsealed white 9" x 12" envelope labeled "MODEL INSIDE (Exhibit A)". An identifying label was affixed directly onto the model.

The reason to file the model is to tangibly demonstrate and prove what the invention is.

Thus, the model shows the invention in its most basic expression, i.e., having:

- a) one body, which constitutes the letter sheet itself,
- b) one layer of release (adhesive inhibitor)
- c) one flap, which provides the self sealing properties because it has:
- d) one layer of pressure sensitive adhesive and

having the flap removably connected to the body by the interaction of the layer of adhesive and the layer of release, in the pre-use condition of the product, i.e. the way is offered to the public.

The model was produced by creating a template of the self-sealing form, as described above and as shown in the photograph below.

When the model is in finished condition, i.e., It emulates a finished, ready to be used Self Sealing Letter Sheet, the flap is temporarily fastened to the body, and its plan size is 8 ½" x 11".

The template was created in CorelDraw, and printed on a Hewlett Packard LaserJet 4V Postscript, printer on an 11" x 17" sheet of 32 lb. paper, Color White 96 (Acid Free) made by Exact®, a brand of Wausau papers, product # 87303.

The letter sheet was produced by cutting along the outer lines of the template, using an X-Acto™ knife and the edge of a metallic ruler aligned with such outer lines of the template as a guide. A score line to divide the flap and the body was produced by

repeatedly tracing a Proedge™ engraving tool along the edge of a metallic ruler, and following pre-marked guidelines. No more score lines were produced.

The release substance was produced by using GE silicone SM2245 as the base and SM2146 as a catalyzer. To thicken the compound, both products were then mixed with Natrosol® 250HR (Hydroxyethylcellulose), made by Aqualon, which had been previously dissolved in water.

A pressure sensitive adhesive was obtained by mixing Rhoplex® N-580 and Rhoplex® N-619, in equal proportions. Both these products are made by Rohm & Haas.

Release was applied first by rubbing a finger impregnated with it onto the respective area, which was pre-masked by using 3M's Safe Release™ painter's masking tape, product # 2070. Then, it was cured by placing it into an oven for 55 seconds at 110 °C.

Adhesive was then applied by also rubbing a finger impregnated with it onto the respective area, which was pre-masked by also using 3M's Safe Release™ painter's masking tape.

Then the flap was bent towards the body and fastened to it (*in a removable manner*) to finish the model.

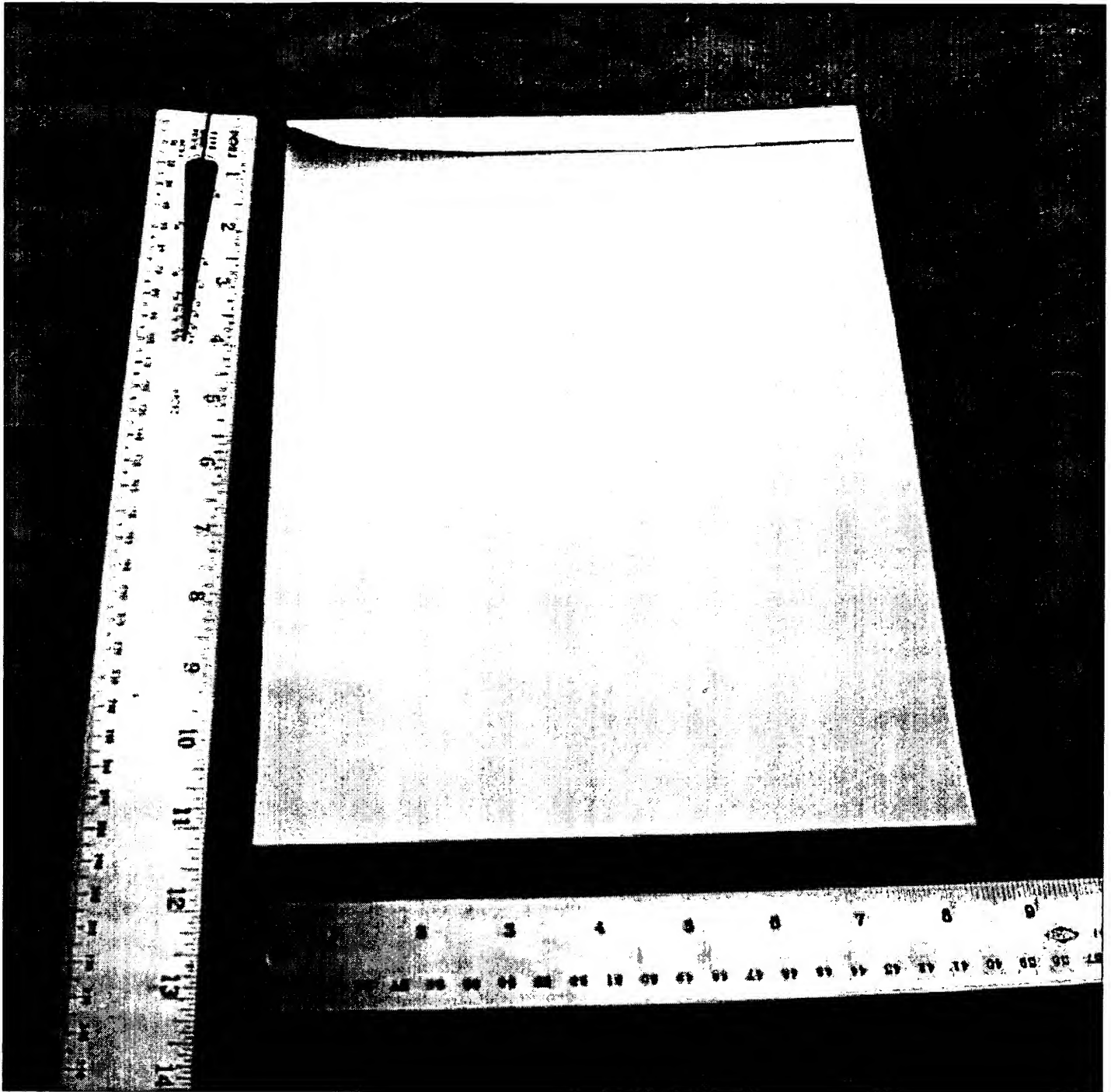
The products and steps discussed here were only used for purposes of manually producing a short run of models, and for testing, and do not in anyway have a restrictive effect regarding the materials or procedures that can be used to produce the invention.

A photo of the model is included on next page.

8) As per MPEP 608.03(a) and under 37 C.F.R. 1.91(a)(1), Exhibits B, C, D and E, corresponding respectively to models made by applicant of Schieman's first embodiment, Schieman's second embodiment, Wilbur's first embodiment and Wilbur's second embodiment are submitted herewith. All four models were placed inside a 9" x12" envelope labeled "CITED REFERENCES MODELS INSIDE (Exhibits B, C, D and E)". An identifying label was affixed directly onto each model. The adhesive and release substances used were the same as described above.

The purpose of these models is to aid the Office in comparing the cited references with the present invention.

9) AFFIDAVIT 4, reflecting the opinion of a leader manufacturer and marketer of envelopes, who declines further consideration of this invention for possible licensing, because it is not an envelope, is submitted herewith.



Photograph of model submitted under 37 CFR 1.91

So the elements are better distinguished, in the photograph, flap was partially lifted. Given their translucency, adhesive and release layers do not show in the photograph.

CLAIMS ARE IN A YET BETTER CONDITION FOR ALLOWANCE

All independent claims and some dependent claims were amended to provide a) further limitations, b) better define the invention and/or c) address grammar or editorial issues. In particular:

CLAIM 45, and its dependent claim **49** now further require that each flap be in contact and temporarily fastened to the body, prior to the use of the product. None of the references has each flap in contact with the body, and temporarily fastened to it.

CLAIM 50, and its dependent claim **53** now require that the adhesive substance be applied to each flap and that each flap be in contact and temporarily fastened to the body. None of the references has each flap in contact with the body, and temporarily fastened to it.

CLAIM 54, and its dependent claim **57** better define the invention as they recite the layer of adhesive and the layer of adhesive inhibitor in contact with one another.

CLAIM 62, and its dependent claim **67** now require that when each flap overlaps the body, each flap is fastened to said body in a temporary fashion. None of the references has each flap temporarily fastened to the body.

CLAIM 68, was amended to include and relate to reference characters in the specification and point to the fact that a repositionable adhesive **204** had been disclosed in original application. Please. see MPEP 608.01 (m)

Of course, all these additional amendments to the claims, also apply to their respective dependent claims.

Whenever further limitations were provided to claims, the intention was to advance the case and procure allowance without any further proceedings, and they are submitted without relinquishing the arguments submitted with this and previous amendments, as these arguments are believed to be correct, and fully supportive of the patentability of the claims as filed. Applicant respectfully requests adequate attention to all the arguments.

REMARKS -ARGUMENTS-

Applicant respectfully submits an illustrated explanation of

What the Invention Is:

In order to fully understand what a self sealing letter sheet is, it is helpful to have a clear notion of what a (non-self sealing) letter sheet is. To that end, and to further establish the advantages of a self sealing letter sheet over a (non-self sealing) letter sheet; the left column shows a conventional (non-self sealing) letter sheet. The right column describes the letter sheet of the present invention.

(Prior Art) Letter Sheet

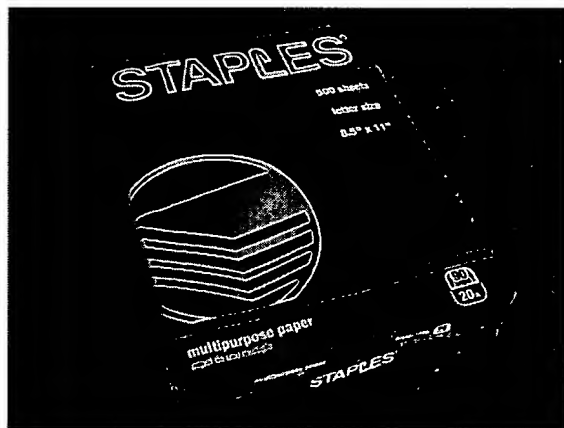


Photo of a packaged ream of letter sheets as it is marketed.

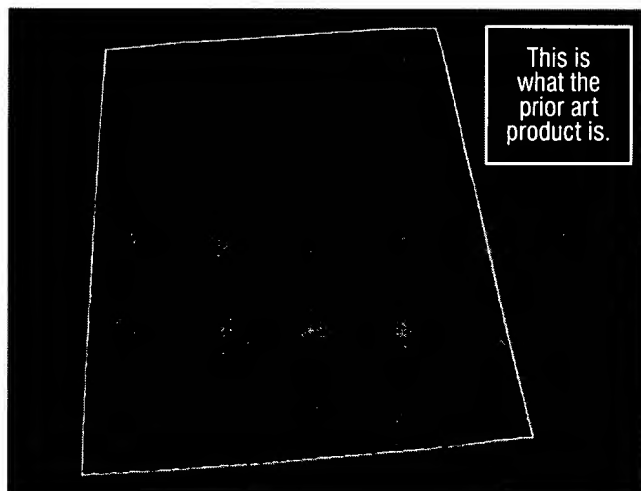
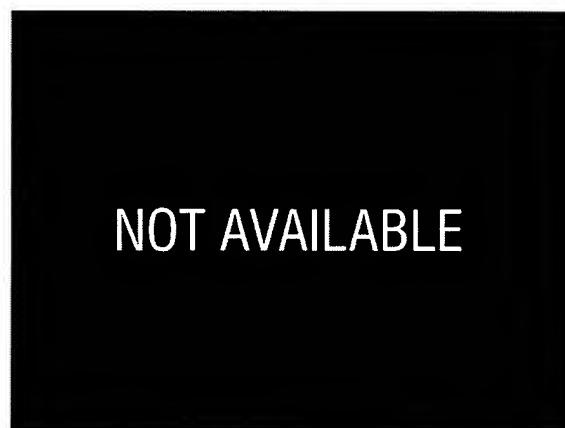


Photo of a single letter sheet

The Invention: SELF SEALING LETTER SHEET



Invention is not yet marketed, however it could be similarly packaged

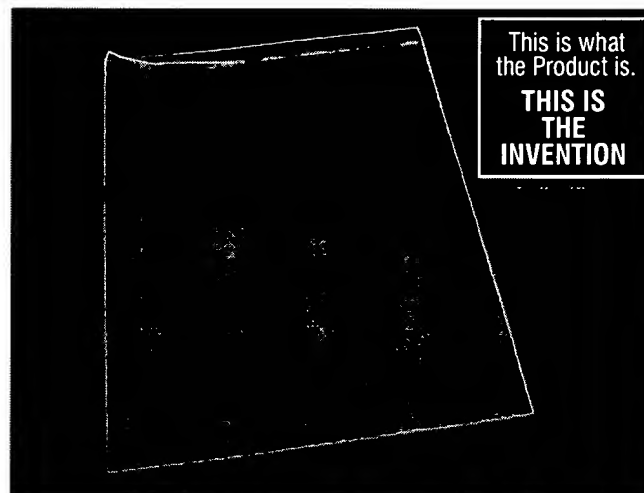


Photo of a single self sealing letter sheet. To better show the different elements, flap was partially lifted.

Other examples of a "Letter Sheet" on page 32. Also, see model (Exhibit A) attached.

“What the invention is” as a product was shown in the previous page. Pictures and text starting on this page show on the right column

How to USE the invention

Pictures and text on the left column show the prior art, and by contrast, the advantages of the invention will be readily evident.

(Prior Art) Letter Sheet

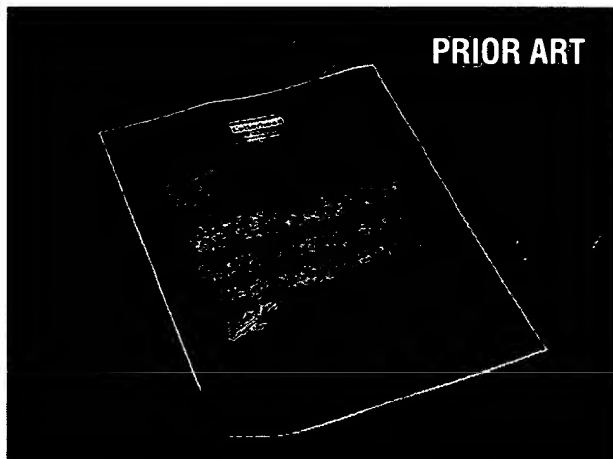


Photo of a letter sheet after printing took place. This is a use step.

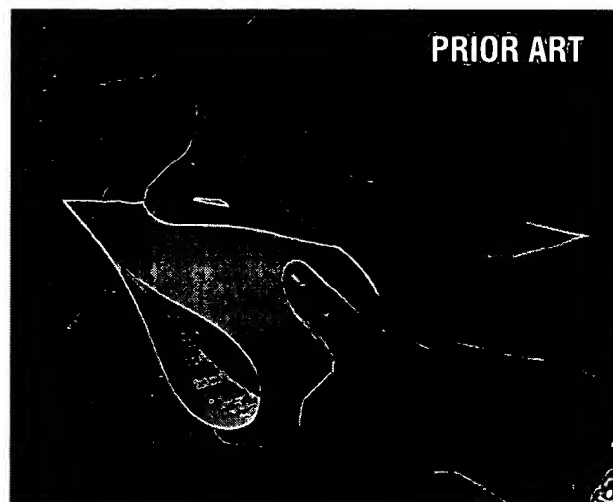


Photo of a letter sheet being folded in half. This is a use step.

The Invention: SELF SEALING LETTER SHEET

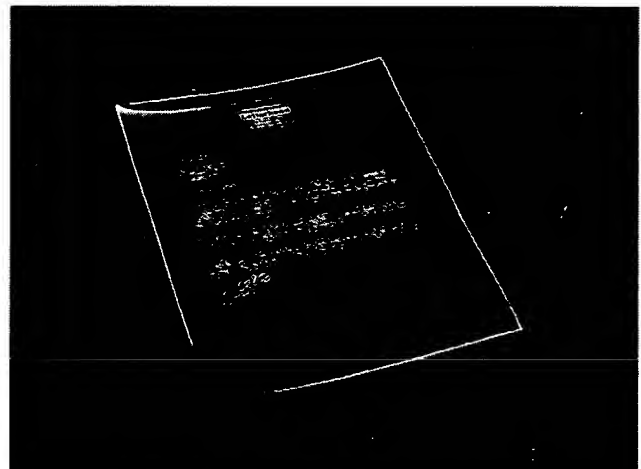


Photo of a self sealing letter sheet after printing took place. This is a use step. Again, flap was partially lifted so it is better distinguished in the photo.



Photo of a self sealing letter sheet being folded in half. This is a use step.

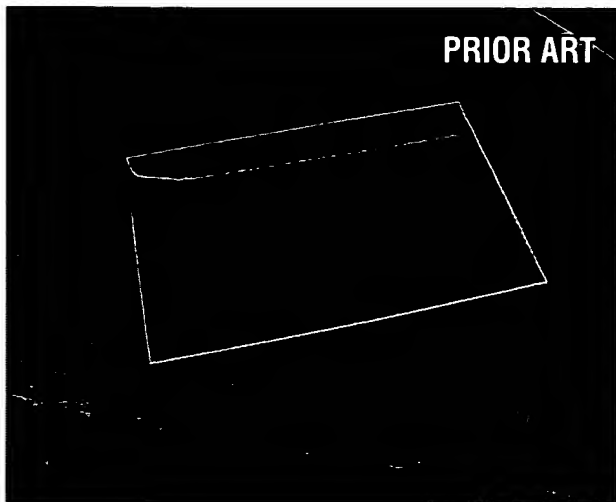
(Prior Art) Letter Sheet

Photo of a 6" x 9" envelope, which will be necessary to contain the letter sheet. Alternatively, a piece of tape, a staple, or other means may be used to seal the letter sheet of the prior art, but in any event, this is another use step, involving an element foreign to the letter sheet.

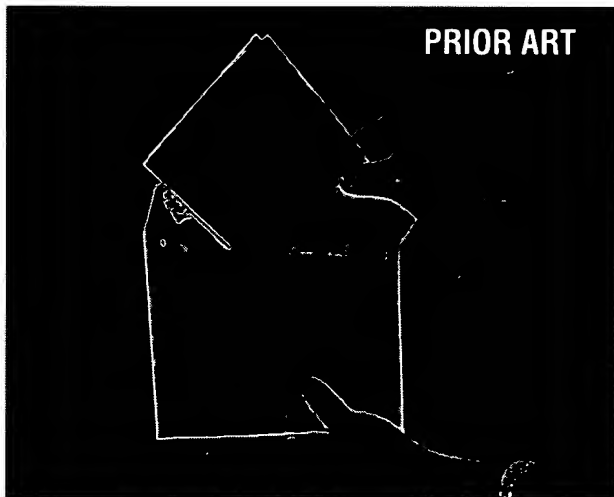


Photo of a letter sheet being inserted into the envelope. This is another use step.

**The Invention:
SELF SEALING LETTER SHEET**

Photo of the flap of the self sealing letter sheet being lifted. This is another use step.

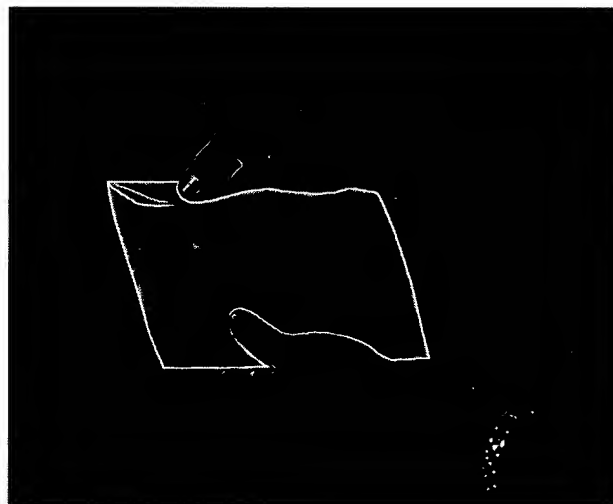


Photo of a self sealing letter sheet being sealed. This is the final use step. And this is the product after all the use steps have been performed.

Other embodiments of the invention disclose side flaps to provide enhanced privacy.

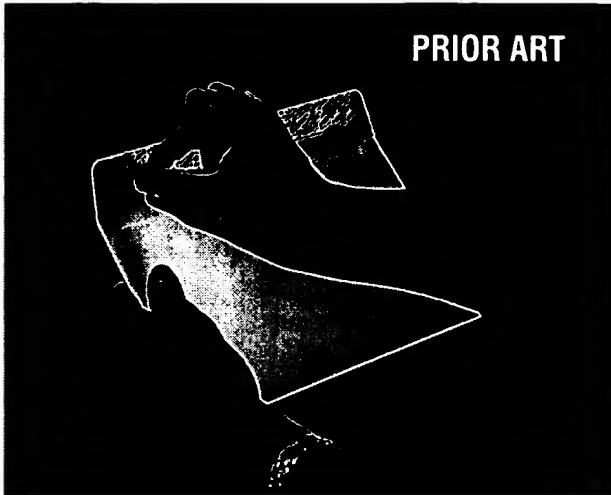
(Prior Art) Letter Sheet

Photo of the release liner of the envelope being removed, as another use step. Alternatively, if another type of envelope is used, a dry adhesive would need to be moistened, or if Schieman's envelope is used, the flaps would need to be set for sealing.



Photo of the envelope now containing the letter sheet while is being sealed. This is another use step.

The Invention:

SELF SEALING LETTER SHEET

FEWER STEPS WERE REQUIRED TO
SEAL THE SELF SEALING LETTER SHEET
OF THE PRESENT INVENTION, AND THE NEED
FOR AN ENVELOPE WAS ELIMINATED.

These comparative images and captions of "How to USE the Invention" are also consolidated in one sheet as **ATTACHMENT 16**.

OTHER EXAMPLES OF 'PRIOR ART'

NEBS Product # 9209
"Classic Laser/Inkjet Multipurpose Voucher Check"

NEBS Product # 13446T
"Colors Laser/Inkjet Statement"

Also, see previously submitted **ATTACHMENT 9**, which discusses another prior art exponent, also discussed in **Affidavit 1**, Section II; and newly submitted **ATTACHMENT 19**, related to the same product.

Also, see **ATTACHMENT 29**, which discusses advantages of a the "Self Sealing Form" of the present invention over conventional "Forms".

These are other exponents of the prior art. See FIG.8 and FIG. 16, in original application, which address the same purpose, of these pieces (Forms for feeding into laser or Inkjet Printers) and which DO NOT need then to be inserted into an envelope afterwards for delivery to the recipient, as the forms of the present invention are "Self Sealing".

These examples were downloaded from:

<http://www.nebs.com/ecatimages/full/9209.gif>

and

<http://www.nebs.com/ecatimages/full/13446T.gif>

and are also submitted at their original size

As **ATTACHMENTS 18** and **19**

(O.A. 1) O.A. suggests that the use of the term "blank" constitutes "new matter" in the substitute specification.

This is believed to be incorrect

The term "blank" was literally introduced by the original specification. Please, see claim 17:

"A self sealing form, comprising:

a) a **blank of a sheet material...**"

Please, see MPEP 2163 I B; ...*"The claims as filed in the original specification are part of the disclosure, and therefore if an application as originally filed contains a claim disclosing material not found in the remainder of the specification, the applicant may amend the specification to include the claimed subject matter...*

"In establishing a disclosure, applicant may rely not only on the specification and drawings as filed by also on the original claims if their content justifies it." (MPEP 608.04) Also, see MPEP 2163.06

Even if there was no literal disclosure of it, the term "blank" is an appropriate term to describe a piece of a sheet material, and it is fully supported by the original specification and drawings. All the embodiments are made out of a 'blank' of a sheet material. See all Figs.

An Applicant may amend the specification or drawings by "making explicit a disclosure which was implicit in the application as filed. In re Wright, 343 F.2d 761. See also Helms Prods. V. Lake Shore Mfg Co., 227 F.2d ("the amendments to the specification merely render explicit what had been implicitly disclosed originally, and while new language has certainly been added, we are not prone to believe all new 'language' ipso facto as 'new matter.'")

(O.A. 1) Office refused to enter the substitute specification, for allegedly containing new matter.

This is believed to be incorrect

O.A. did not identify any matter that was not in the original specification. Substitute specification does not contain any new matter, as evidenced by the cross reference of the substitute specification to original specification, submitted herewith as

ATTACHMENT 17, and which relates each amendment made by addition in the substitute specification to the location(s) they were discussed in the original specification. There is **No** new matter in the substitute specification.

Substitute specification was submitted under 37 CFR 1.125(b) and it was prompted by what is believed to be a misinterpretation of the invention by the Office, disclosing only elements contained in the original specification and drawings.

The focus of the rewritten specification is on clearly differentiating:

- a) The structural definition of the **PRODUCT**, as it is produced (and **CLAIMED**), in contrast with
- b) The steps necessary for its use, after it has been produced and sold. (and which are **NOT CLAIMED**).

This is important because the 102 and 103 rejections invoke elements that are not in the product. The product, as claimed (and as it is offered to the public) does not include

“panels and flaps secured together in a manner which forms at least one pocket into which contents can be placed”

as alleged by O.A. Dated June 20/02; page 10, 2nd Para. (#26).

Paradoxically, the applicant's point is made very clear by that O.A. later on that same paragraph offering a legal explanation, which invalidates the rejection, and that clearly establishes the patentability of all the claims. O.A. States:

“A claim to an article must define over the prior art in terms of structure, not just function or intended use.”

Any “panel” or any “pocket” disclosed in the **specification (never in a claim. No claim ever recited a panel)** is the resultant of the use of the invention, and according to the law, as submitted by the Office, this has no bearing on an article claim.

Amendment B thoroughly addressed this issue with various arguments and illustrated attachments in response to Office's **specific request** that applicant pointed out the differences between Schieman's and the invention. (Please, see O.,A dated June 20/02, page 11, 2nd paragraph.)

However, none of these arguments and illustrated attachments was at all addressed in O.A. Dated Sept. 11/02.

Applicant respectfully requests that the substitute specification be entered, as it does not contain any new matter, but it is merely an improved redaction of the same subject matter, and it clearly places the case in better condition for allowance and/or appeal.

Moreover, applicant respectfully requests that even if there is anything considered “new matter” that only such matter deemed “new” be required to be removed.

According to the MPEP: the new matter needs to a) be clearly identified by the examiner, b) objected to and c) a requirement made to cancel such new matter. See MPEP 608.04

(O.A. 2) O.A. required that "incorporation by reference of Appl. # 09/130,534 be canceled.

Such incorporation was canceled.

(O.A. 3, 4) **O.A. rejected** claim 45 under 112 as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification to convey the claimed invention to one skilled in the art, alleging that:

there is no original disclosure of a "mono-sectional body", and that "all of the disclosed envelope* bodies have more than one section. “

This is believed to be incorrect

Please, see Page 12, 4th para., last sentence of original specification, which states:

“Score or folding lines may also be substituted by printed guides or may simply be omitted”

It is a matter of logic that if there are no score lines or otherwise separating lines, and if the body is unfolded —as it always is— in the pre-use condition, the body is mono-sectional.

See claims 1-22, which do not recite any ‘sections’ to the body. See MPEP 2163.06.

Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of rejection of claim 45 based on this premise, as this premise is believed not to be valid.

(* CORRECTION NOTE: The disclosed and the claimed invention is a self sealing letter sheet, NOT an envelope as characterized by the Office Action on this rejection)

(O.A. 3, 4) **O.A. Additionally rejected** claim 45 under 112 as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification to convey the claimed invention to one skilled in the art, alleging that "each envelope*" in the original disclosure has only one "body""

This is believed to be incorrect

Please, refer to 13th embodiment (Figs. 24A-24N), which is defined as a "two-way self sealing mailer" and which has first mailer (first body) 238 and a second mailer (second body) 244. Also, please refer to 14th embodiment (Figs 25A- 250), which is also a "two way self sealing mailer" and which has a message panel (message body) 264, reply mailer 244 (reply body) and addressing panel 266 (addressing body)

Furthermore, see claims 4 and 20. Please see MPEP 2163 I B. See MPEP 2163.06.

Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of rejection of claim 45 based on this premise, as this premise is believed not to be valid.

(* CORRECTION NOTE: The disclosed and the claimed invention is a self sealing letter sheet, NOT an envelope as characterized by the Office Action on this rejection)

(O.A. 5) **O.A. rejected** claims 46-49 under 112 as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification to convey the claimed invention to one skilled in the art, alleging that as dependant of claim 45 they include all of its limitations.

As they all depend on claim 45, and claim 45 does not include any new matter this is also an improper rejection.

Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits, that since rejection of claim 45 is not valid, this rejection is not valid either and therefore, respectfully requests withdrawal of rejection of claims 46-49 based on this premise, as this premise is

believed not to be valid.

(O.A. 5) **O.A. further rejected** claim 49 under 112 as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification to convey the claimed invention to one skilled in the art, alleging that the phrase "at least one mono-sectional" flap is new matter.

This is believed to be incorrect

See Fig. 24A of 13th embodiment. The second mailer (second body) 244 has at least one mono-sectional flap (flaps 246, 248, and 250). Also, see Fig. 25A of 14th embodiment. The reply mailer 244 (reply body) has at least one mono-sectional flap (flaps 246 and 248) .

See claims 1-22, which do not recite any sections to the flaps. See MPEP 2163.06.

Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of rejection of claim 49 based on this premise, as this premise is believed not to be valid.

(O.A. 6) **O.A. rejected** claim 60 under 112 as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification to convey the claimed invention to one skilled in the art, alleging that "there is no original disclosure of a letter sheet that is folded and that it is part of a continuous assembly of detachable forms.

Claim 60 was canceled.

(O.A. 7) **O.A. rejected** claims 68-70 under 112 as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification to convey the claimed invention to one skilled in the art, alleging that "there is no original disclosure of a letter sheet having one layer of repositionable adhesive"

This is believed to be incorrect

Please, refer to 8th paragraph of page 13, which specifically discloses: "Another alternate three panel self contained form (not shown) of this 1st embodiment is obtained by omitting the adhesive inhibitor 206 and using a dry adhesive substance as the adhesive layers 202, that is activated by its moistening. **For the temporary**

connection of the flaps to the body, a low tack adhesive 204 is used, interacting with a facing space that has no layer of any substance."

Similar disclosures appear on page 14, 10th para.; page 215, 8th para.; page 16, last para. continued on page 17; page 17, last para. continued on page 18; page 18, 8th para.; page 19, 3rd para., page 19, 9th para.

Also, refer to **FIG. 1; FIGS. 5A and 5B; and FIGS. 6A and 6B**, and their respective text on the specification. See also Page 10, 1st and 2nd paragraphss.

Also, refer to **page 5**, last paragraph.

All these entries relate to the repositionable adhesive layer **(204)** , and teach how to utilize it, as it is recited by claims 68-70. Therefore, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection, as it is believed that there are no basis for it.

O.A. 8, 9) **O.A. rejected** claim 45 under 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded as the invention, alleging that the limitations preceding the phrase "whereby said self sealing letter is manufactured" are not manufacturing steps.

This is believed to be incorrect

All the limitations preceding such phrase are the conditions and requirements for the form to be produced, and then made available to the public for its use. The verb (to) manufacture is a synonymous of the verb (to) produce.

Also, please, see MPEP 2173.05(p) *...A claim to a device, apparatus, manufacture or composition of matter may contain a reference to the process in which it is intended to be used without being objectionable under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, so long as it is clear that the claim is directed to the product and not the process...*

Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of this rejection.

(O.A. 10) **O.A. rejected** claim 46-49 under 112 alleging that as dependent on claim 45, these claims are indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject

matter regarded as the invention,

Applicant Respectfully submits that just as the rejection of claim 45 under 112 is believed to be invalid, the same rejection of its dependent claims is also believed to be invalid.

Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of this rejection.

(O.A. 11) **O.A. rejected** claim 50 under 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded as the invention, alleging that the limitations preceding "the letter sheet is not manufactured by placing a flap in contact with a body"

Applicant respectfully submits that this is believed to be incorrect, and further notes:

This rejection is indicative of what has apparently been a consistent misunderstanding of the invention by the Office.

It also suggests an apparent oversight of the arguments and the probative attachments submitted to the office.

Applicant respectfully submits that yes, just like a "letter sheet" is simply produced by cutting a blank of paper (or similar material) to the desired size, and offered for sale to the public, a "Self Sealing Letter Sheet" is a "letter sheet" further having a flap, a release layer and an adhesive layer, to enable the "self sealing" properties.

Thus, yes, the letter sheet is precisely produced by placing the flap in contact with the body.

Please, see model, submitted herewith under 37 CFR 1.91 (a) (1)

Please, see next page of this amendment, where claim 50 and each of its elements are graphically depicted, as the claim is verbatim recited. See Model (ExhibitA) attached. Also, see **MPEP**

Please, see Claim 50 verbatim recited and illustrated on next page

CLAIM 50 and all its elements teach how to manufacture the invention, as follows:

Isometric/Perspective view of this invention.

Depth of the sheet material was exaggerated for illustrative purposes.

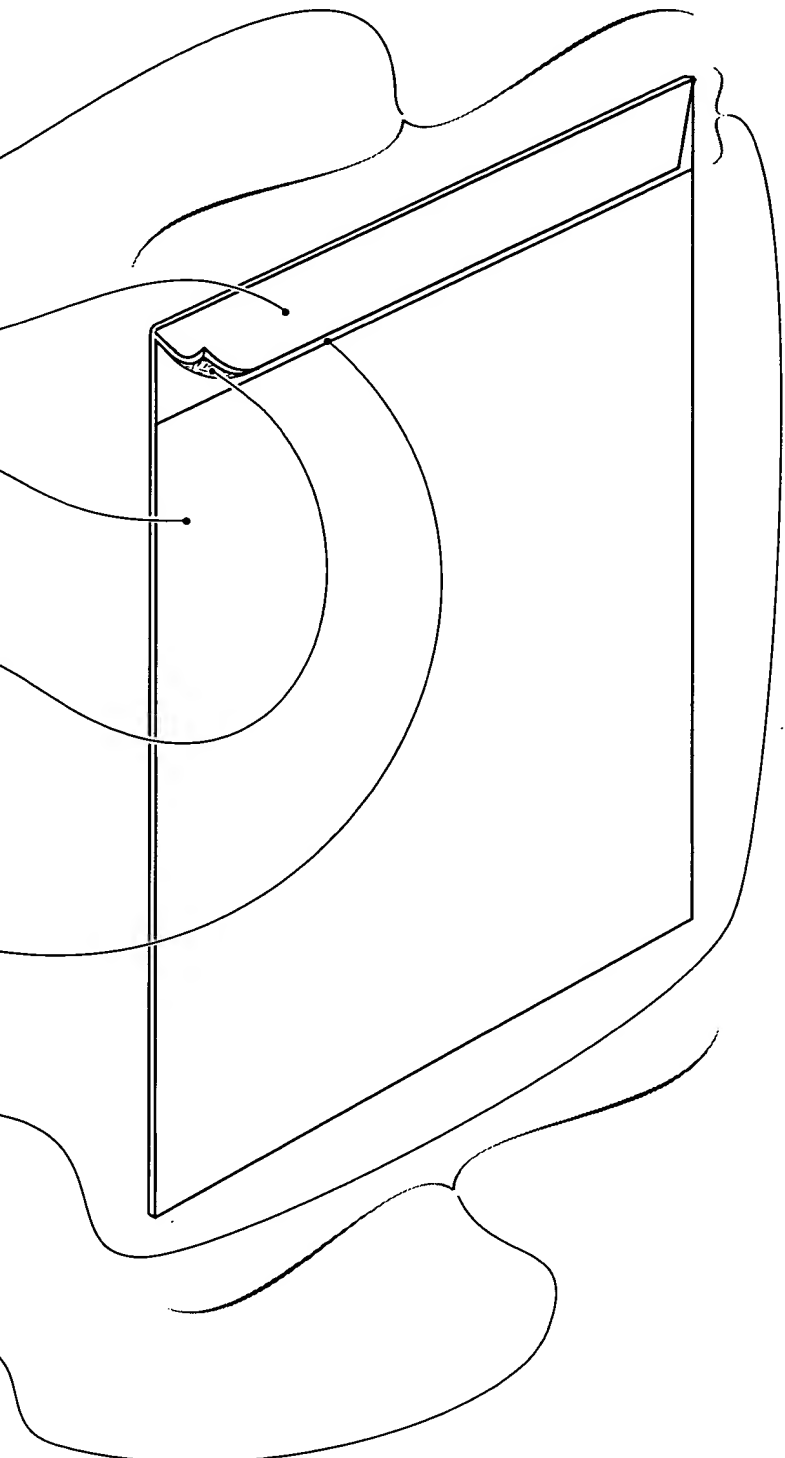
CLAIM 50:

A self sealing letter sheet,
comprising:

- a) at least one flap,
- b) a rectangular body,
- c) at least one layer of an adhesive substance applied to said at least one flap,
- d) at least one layer of an adhesive inhibitor substance applied to said rectangular body,

so when said at least one flap is placed in contact with said rectangular body,

said self sealing letter sheet is manufactured.



This drawing —just like the photo of model on page 25— depicts a manufactured and ready to be used self sealing letter sheet of the present invention

2164.01(b)

(O.A. 12) **O.A. rejected** claims 51-53 under 112 alleging that they include all the limitations of claim 50.

Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection because the rejection is based on the rejection of claim 50, and such rejection is believed to lack any valid basis.

(O.A. 13) **O.A. rejected** claim 60 under 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter regarded as the invention, alleging that "it is unclear how to make a continuous assembly of letter sheets that are folded as recited in claim 59"

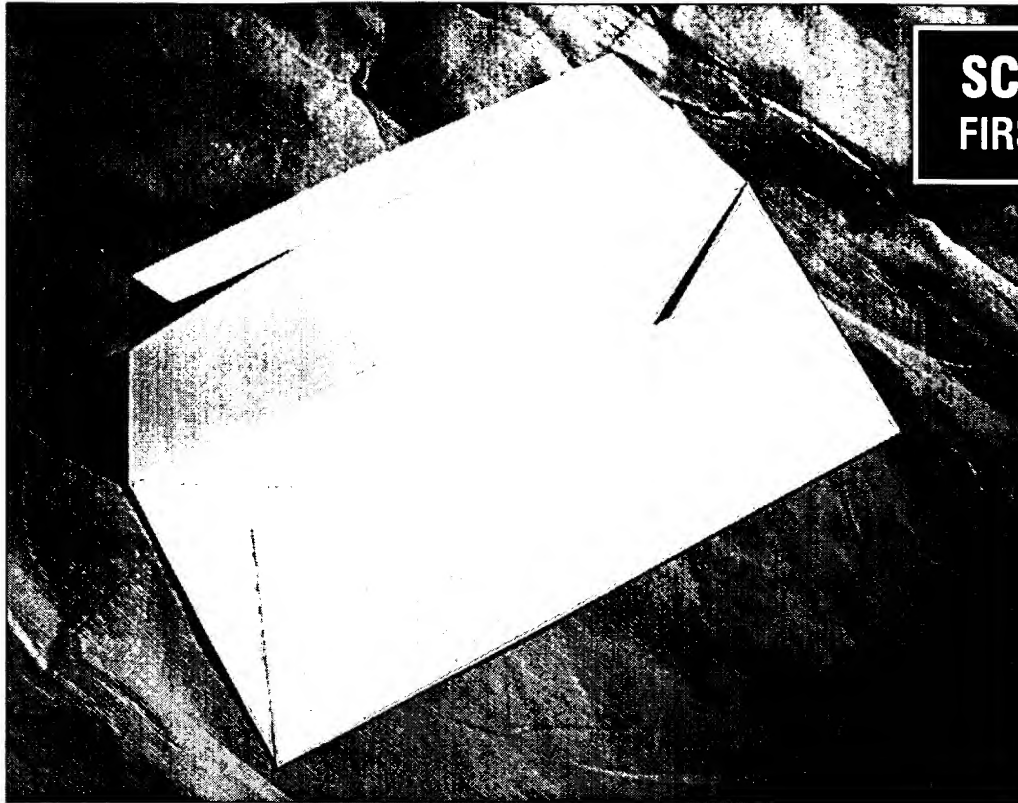
Claim 60 was canceled.

ABOUT 102 and 103 Rejections

As documentation for the discussion of any 102 or 103 rejections, and as an intrinsic part of all the arguments related to these rejections, applicant respectfully submits an illustrated comparison of the references that are believed inappropriate, i.e. Schieman and Wilbur, with respect to this invention. (See MPEP 2141.02)

To that end, applicant built models of this invention, Schieman's two embodiments, and Wilbur's two embodiments, (using the materials described on page 23) and photographed them, so they illustrate the comparisons beginning on next page. Also, see models of the invention (Exhibit A) and cited references (Exhibits A, B, C, D and E)

Also, the following pages include a comprehensive cross section drawing of each embodiment of the cited references side by side with a cross section drawing of this invention, clearly pointing out the many structural differences. And also a comparison of the references with this invention in text-only form, consolidated as Attachments 21, 22, 23 and 24. Also, please refer to Attachments 25, 26, 27, 28, 29 and 30.



SCHIEMAN "1" FIRST Embodiment

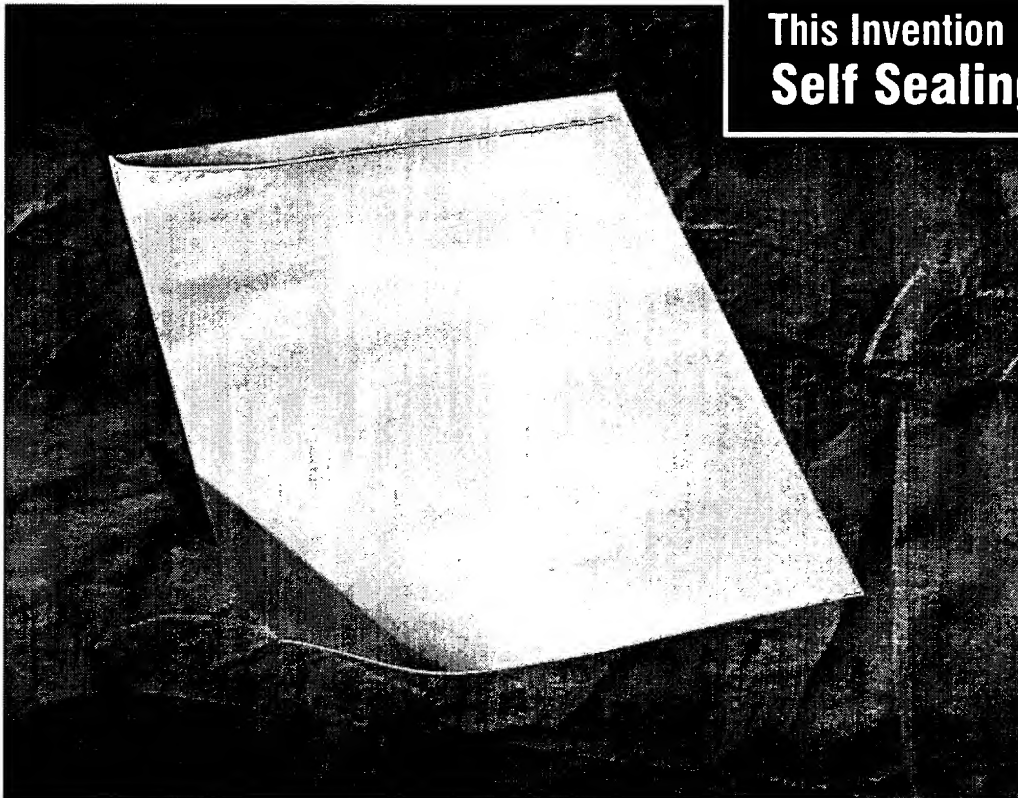
Photo of Schieman's First embodiment.

Schieman "1" is a

pre-assembled container.

The container has two panels, and one of the panels further has three sections, which are held together by two layers of heat activated adhesive. Additionally, Schieman "1" has two interacting flaps, namely:

- a) a larger flap which has the release and
- b) a smaller flap, which has the adhesive



This Invention Self Sealing Letter Sheet

This invention is a letter sheet, which happens to be self-sealable.

It has a body, which is the letter sheet itself, and one or more flaps.

The flaps are all of the same kind. in its PRE-USE condition, all the flaps are connected to the body. Also, in its PRE-USE condition, the body is always unfolded. i.e. There are no "facing" panels, and hence, no containers.

The only adhesive involved is Pressure Sensitive Adhesive (**PSA**).

SCHIEMAN "1" First Embodiment

- 1** A "Body", which is a container
The body is made of:
 - 2** A front panel, facing
 - 3** A back panel,
The back panel is made of:
 - 4** A first section,
 - 5** A second section and
 - 6** A third section

The first, second and third sections are secured together by

- 7** A layer of glue (which is not pressure sensitive adhesive) between first and second sections
- 8** A layer of glue (which is not pressure sensitive adhesive) between second and third sections
- 9** A larger flap connected to the body
(**The body's flap**)
- 10** A smaller flap connected to the larger flap
(**The flap's flap**)
- 11** A layer of pressure sensitive adhesive on smaller flap
- 12** A layer of release on larger flap

These distinctions further translate into other structural distinctions in the PRE-USE stage:

- Two different types of flaps, with different physical properties are necessary
- **ONLY** one flap has adhesive
- **NONE** of the flaps fastens temporarily to the body)
- Release layer is on larger flap
- The finished product, during the pre-use stage, requires the larger flap to face the smaller flap, and to removably fasten to it
- The finished product has a minimum total of 4 layers (see **ATTACHMENT 27**)
- Body does not have or need any further scores
- A heat activated glue is **always** necessary

THE INVENTION Self Sealing Letter Sheets

- 1** A "Body", which is a letter sheet, and which **does not** have any facing panels
- 2** (At least) one flap **connected to the body**
(The only type of flap)
- 3** (At least) one layer of adhesive on **each** flap
- 4** (At least) one layer of release **on body**

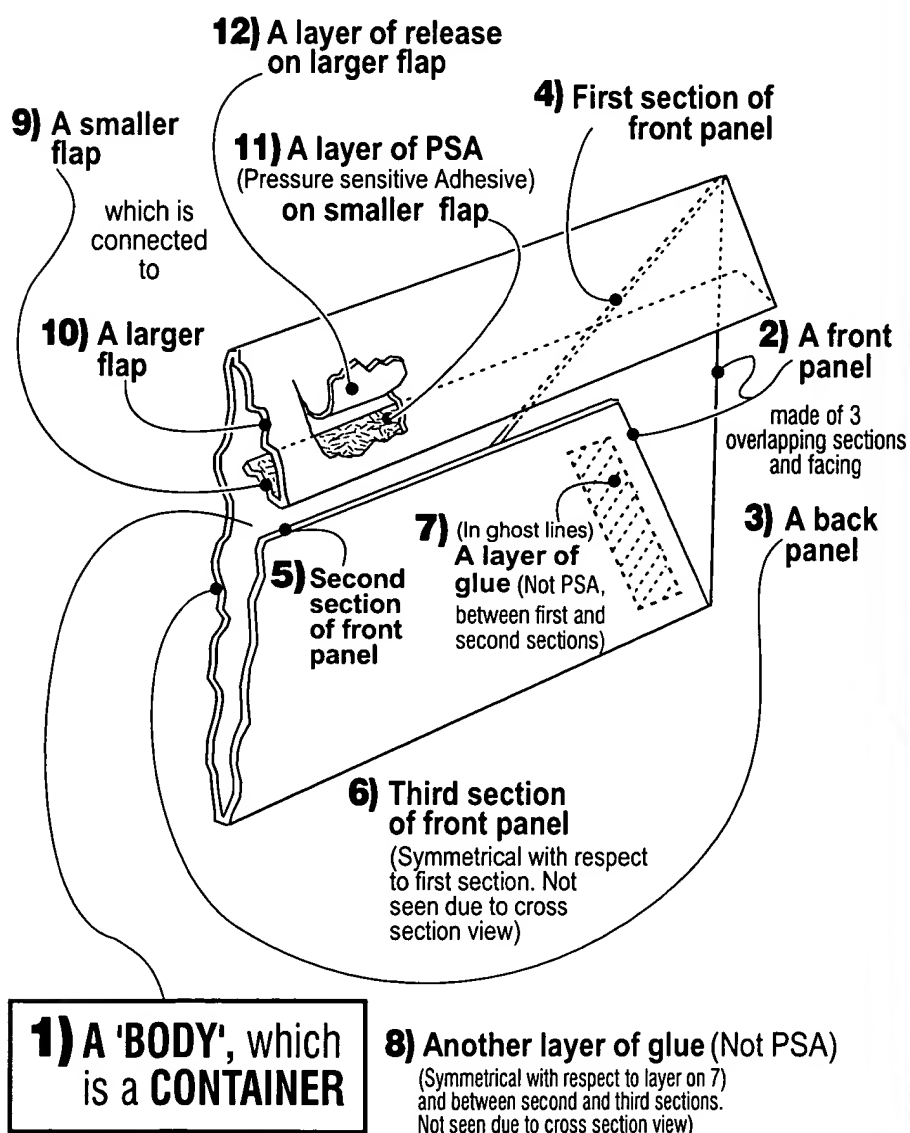
- Regardless of the number of flaps, they are **ALWAYS** of the same kind, with the same physical properties.
- **ALL** the flaps have adhesive
- **ALL** the flaps fasten temporarily to the body
- Release layer is **ALWAYS** on body
- The finished product, during the pre-use stage, requires **ALL** the flaps to face the body and to removably fasten to it
- The finished product has a minimum total of 2 layers (see **ATTACHMENT 27**) **Max. Is 3 layers.**
- (Optional) scores may be applied to the body
- A heat activated glue is **NEVER** necessary

The fundamental distinction imparted by “what the invention IS” with respect to “what the cited references are”, makes unnecessary and redundant any further discussion of structural differences. But even if the cited references constituted legitimate prior art—which is not the case here—there are even further radical structural differences, as follows:

SCHIEMAN “1” First Embodiment

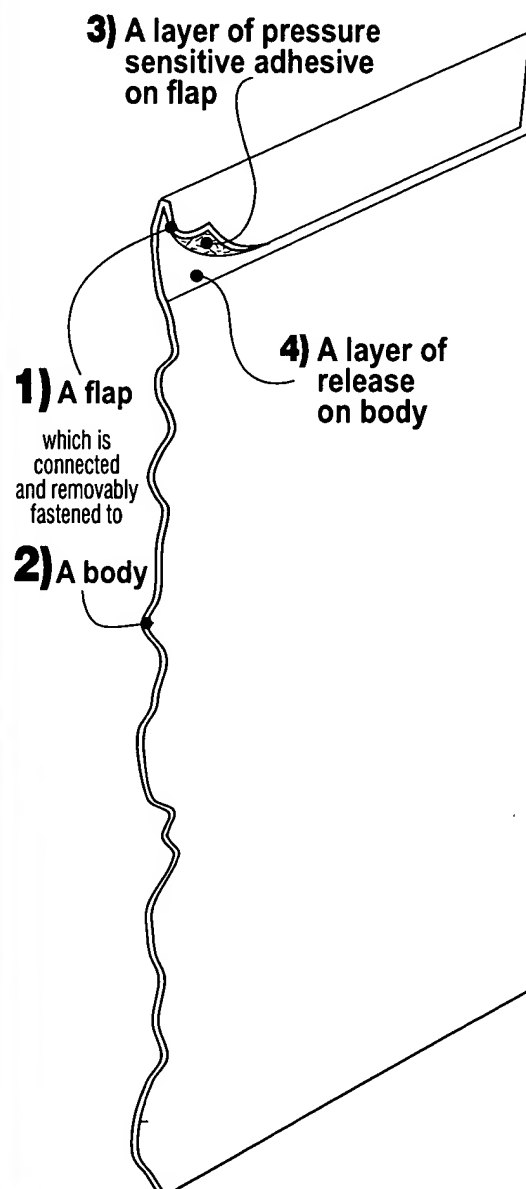
PERSPECTIVE/ CROSS SECTION

Drawing has a torn section on larger flap, so layers of adhesive and release can be shown.



THIS INVENTION Self Sealing Letter Sheets

PERSPECTIVE/CROSS SECTION



Also, see Attachments 25 and 27

SCHIEMAN "2" SECOND Embodiment

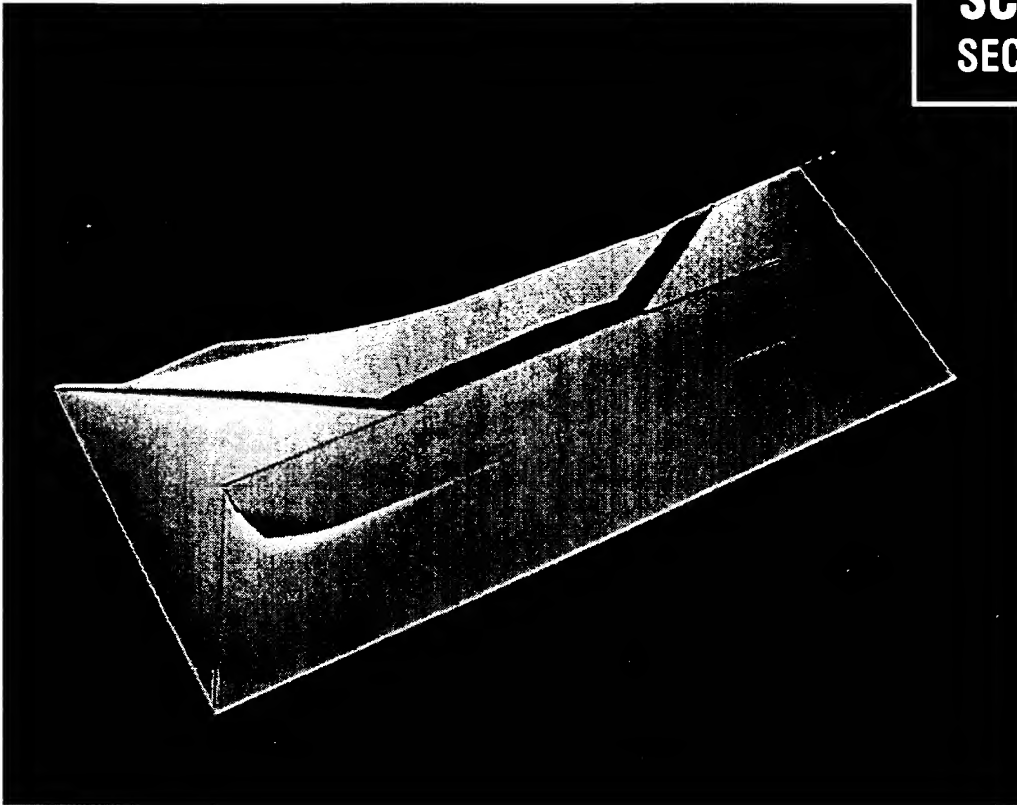


Photo of Schiemans second embodiment.

Schieman "2" is a

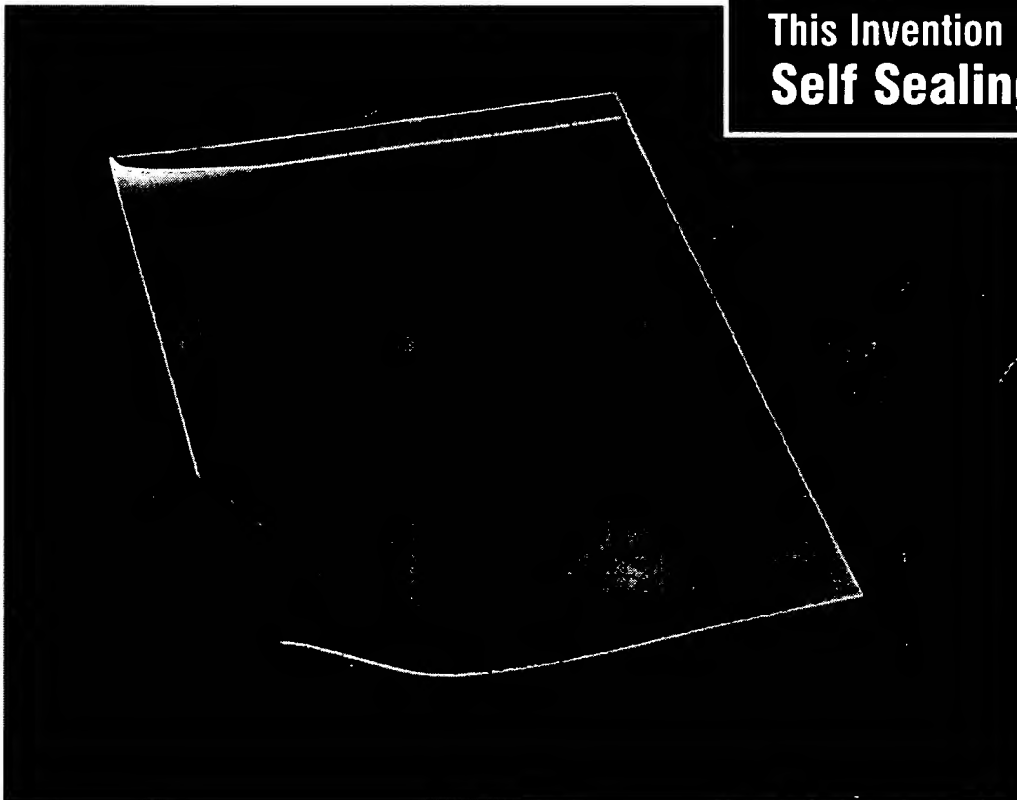
pre-assembled container.

The container has two panels, and one of the panels further has three sections, which are held together by two layers of dry adhesive.

Additionally, Schieman "2" has two interacting flaps, namely:

- a) a sealing flap with no substance layer on it
- b) a smaller flap, which has the release
- c) the adhesive is in front panel of container ('body')

This Invention Self Sealing Letter Sheet



This invention is a letter sheet, which happens to be self-sealable.

It has a body, which is the letter sheet itself, and one or more flaps.

The flaps are all of the same kind. in its PRE-USE condition, all the flaps are connected to the body. Also, in its PRE-USE condition, the body is always unfolded. i.e. There are no "facing" panels, and hence, no containers.

The only adhesive involved is Pressure Sensitive Adhesive (**PSA**)

SCHIEMAN "2" SECOND Embodiment

- 1** A "Body", which is a container
The body is made of:
- 2** A front panel, facing
- 3** A back panel,
The back panel is made of:
- 4** A first section,
- 5** A second section and
- 6** A third section
The first, second and third sections are secured together by
- 7** A layer of glue (which is not pressure sensitive adhesive) between first and second sections
- 8** A layer of glue (which is not pressure sensitive adhesive) between second and third sections
- 9** A sealing flap, without any substance applied thereto
- 10** A protective flap
- 11** A layer of pressure sensitive adhesive on front panel of body
- 12** A layer of release on protective flap

THE INVENTION Self Sealing Letter Sheets

- 1** A "Body", which is a letter sheet, and which **does not** have any facing panels
- 2** (At least) one flap **connected to the body**
(The only type of flap)
- 3** (At least) one layer of adhesive on **each** flap
- 4** (At least) one layer of release **on body**

These distinctions further translate into other structural distinctions in the PRE-USE stage:

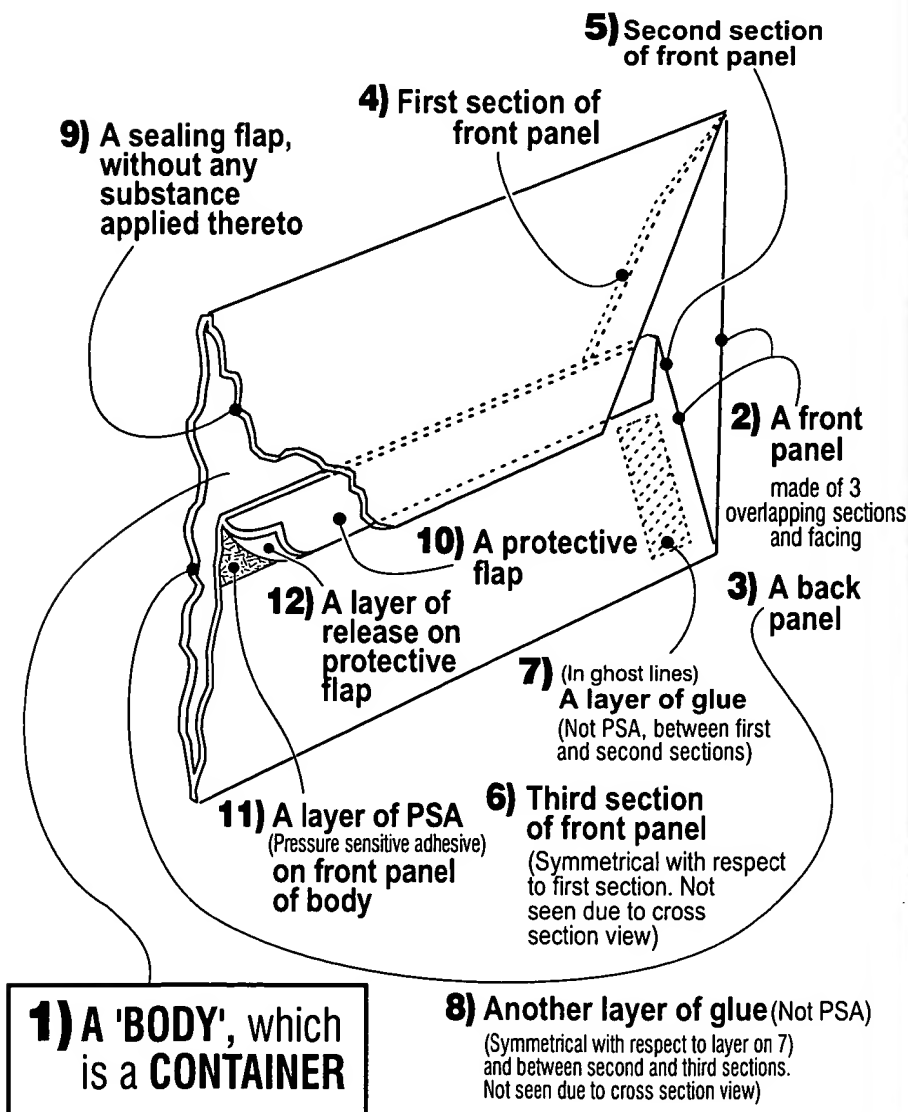
- Two different types of flaps, with different physical properties are necessary
- Sealing flap does not have adhesive, and does not have release.
- NONE of the flaps has adhesive
- ONLY one flap temporarily fastens to the body
- The finished product, during the pre-use stage, requires the larger flap to face the smaller flap, and not to be fastened to it
- The finished product has a minimum total of 5 layers (see **ATTACHMENT 27**)
- Body does not have or need any further scores
- A heat activated glue is **always** necessary
- Regardless of the number of flaps, they are **ALWAYS** of the same kind, with the same physical properties.
- Sealing flap (the only kind) **ALWAYS** has adhesive
- **ALL** the flaps have adhesive
- **ALL** the flaps temporarily fasten to the body
- The finished product, during the pre-use stage, requires **ALL** the flaps to face the body and to removably fasten to it
- The finished product has a minimum total of 2 layers (see **ATTACHMENT 27**) **Max. Is 3 layers.**
- (Optional) scores may be applied to the body
- A heat activated glue is **NEVER** necessary

The fundamental distinction imparted by “what the invention IS” with respect to “what the cited references are”, makes unnecessary and redundant any further discussion of structural differences. But even if the cited references constituted legitimate prior art—which is not the case here—there are even further radical structural differences, as follows:

SCHIEMAN “2” SECOND Embodiment

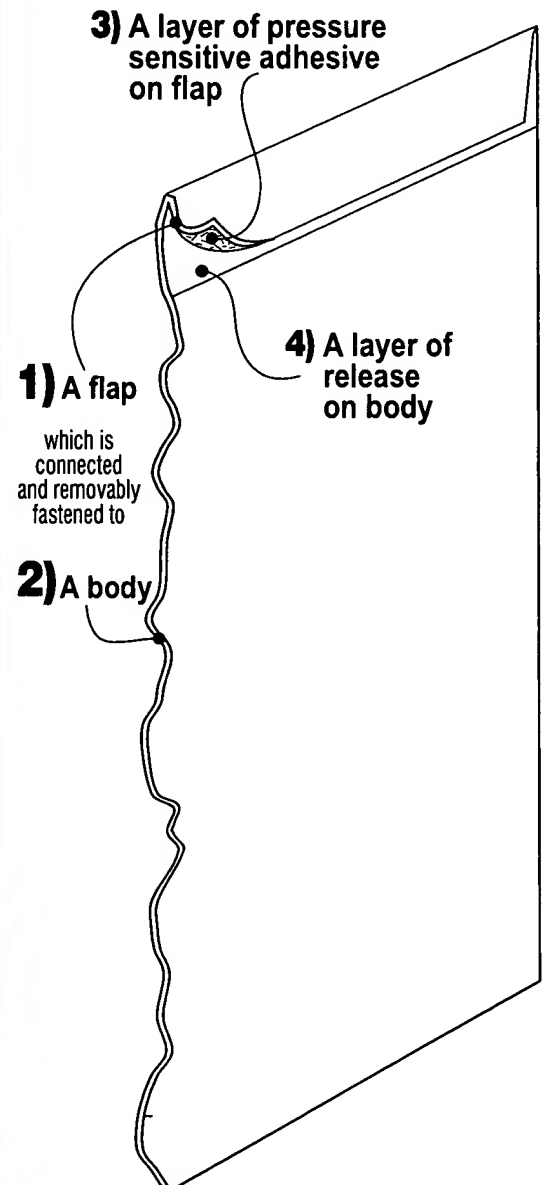
PERSPECTIVE/ CROSS SECTION

Drawing has a torn section on larger flap, so layers of adhesive and release can be shown.



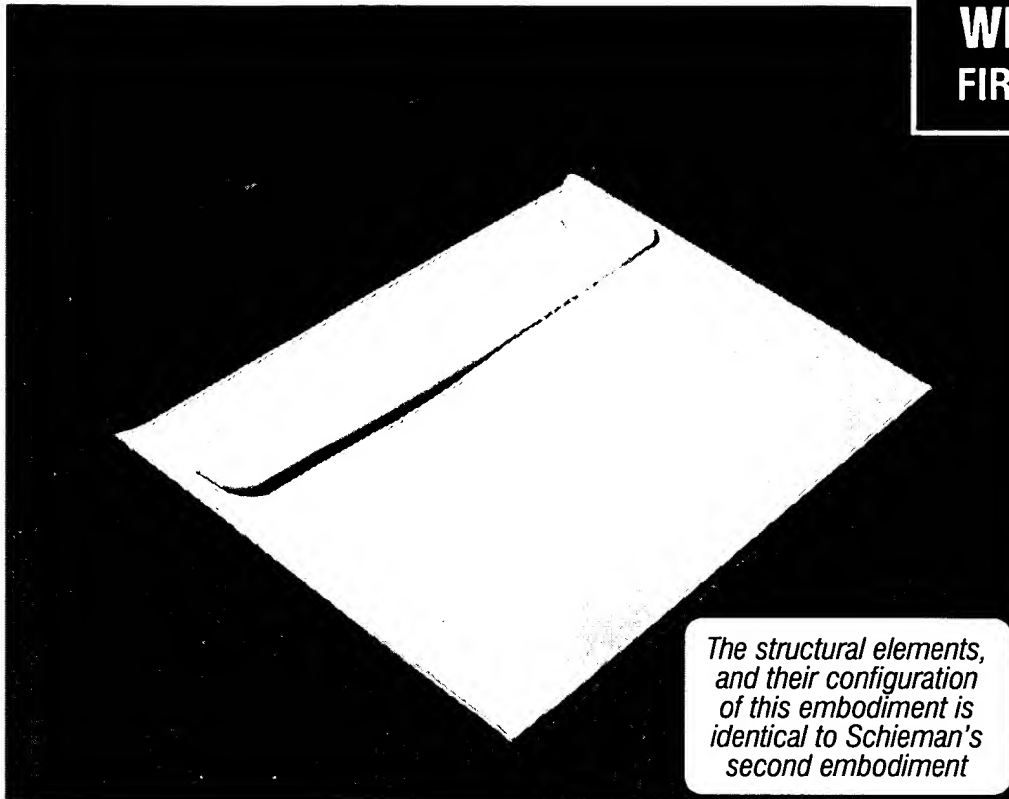
THIS INVENTION Self Sealing Letter Sheets

PERSPECTIVE/CROSS SECTION



Also, see Attachments 26 and 27

WILBUR "1" FIRST Embodiment



*The structural elements,
and their configuration
of this embodiment is
identical to Schieman's
second embodiment*

Photo of Wilbur's
First embodiment.

Wilbur "1" is a

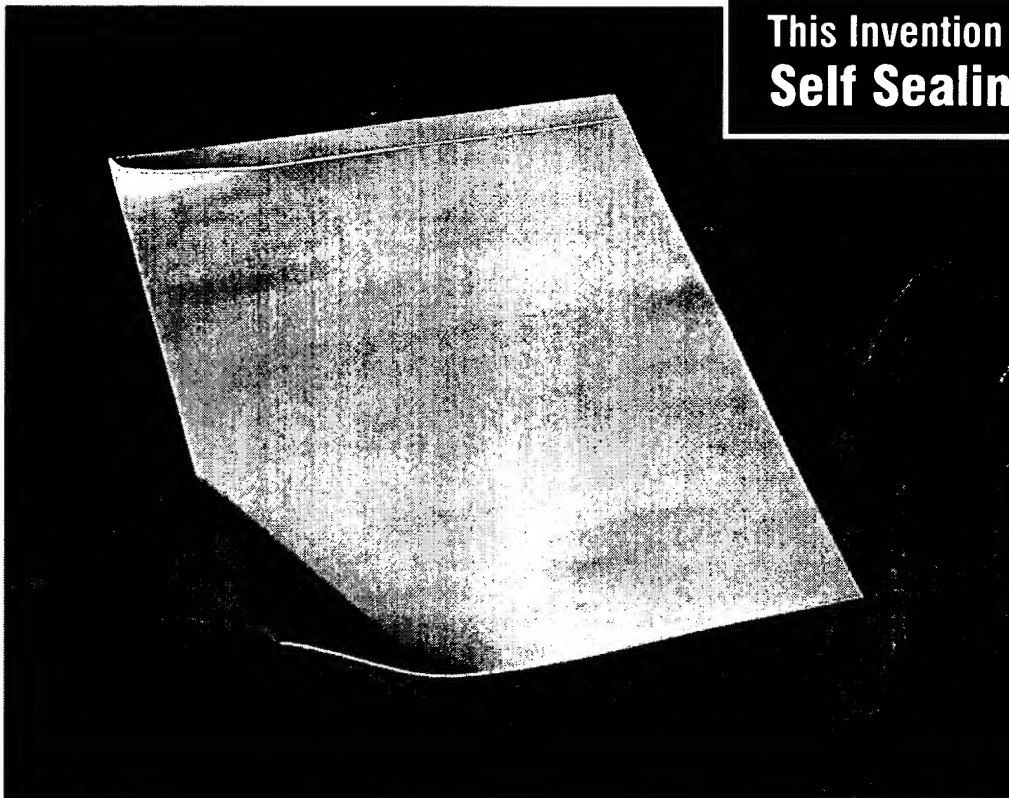
pre-assembled container.

The container has two panels,
and one of the panels further
has three sections, which
are held together by two
layers of dry adhesive.

Additionally, Wilbur "1"
has two interacting
flaps, namely:

- a) a sealing flap with no
substance layer on it
- b) a smaller flap, which has
the release
- c) the adhesive is in front
panel of container ('body')

This Invention Self Sealing Letter Sheet



This invention is a letter
sheet, which happens to be
self-sealable.

It has a body, which is the
letter sheet itself, and one or
more flaps.

The flaps are all of the same
kind. in its PRE-USE condition,
all the flaps are connected
to the body. Also, in its PRE-
USE condition, the body is
always unfolded. i.e. There
are no "facing" panels, and
hence, no containers.

The only adhesive involved
is Pressure Sensitive
Adhesive (**PSA**)

WILBUR "1" FIRST Embodiment

- 1** A "Body", which is a container

The body is made of:

- 2** A front panel, facing

- 3** A back panel,

The back panel is made of:

- 4** A first section,

- 5** A second section and

- 6** A third section

The first, second and third sections are secured together by

- 7** A layer of glue (which is not pressure sensitive adhesive) between first and second sections

- 8** A layer of glue (which is not pressure sensitive adhesive) between second and third sections

- 9** A sealing flap, without any substance applied thereto

- 10** A protective flap

- 11** A layer of pressure sensitive adhesive on front panel of body

- 12** A layer of release on protective flap

This invention has exactly the same elements and the same structural configuration as Schieman's second embodiment

THE INVENTION Self Sealing Letter Sheets

- 1** A "Body", which is a letter sheet, and which **does not** have any facing panels

- 2** (At least) one flap **connected to the body**
(The only type of flap)

- 3** (At least) one layer of adhesive on **each** flap

- 4** (At least) one layer of release **on body**

These distinctions further translate into other structural distinctions in the PRE-USE stage:

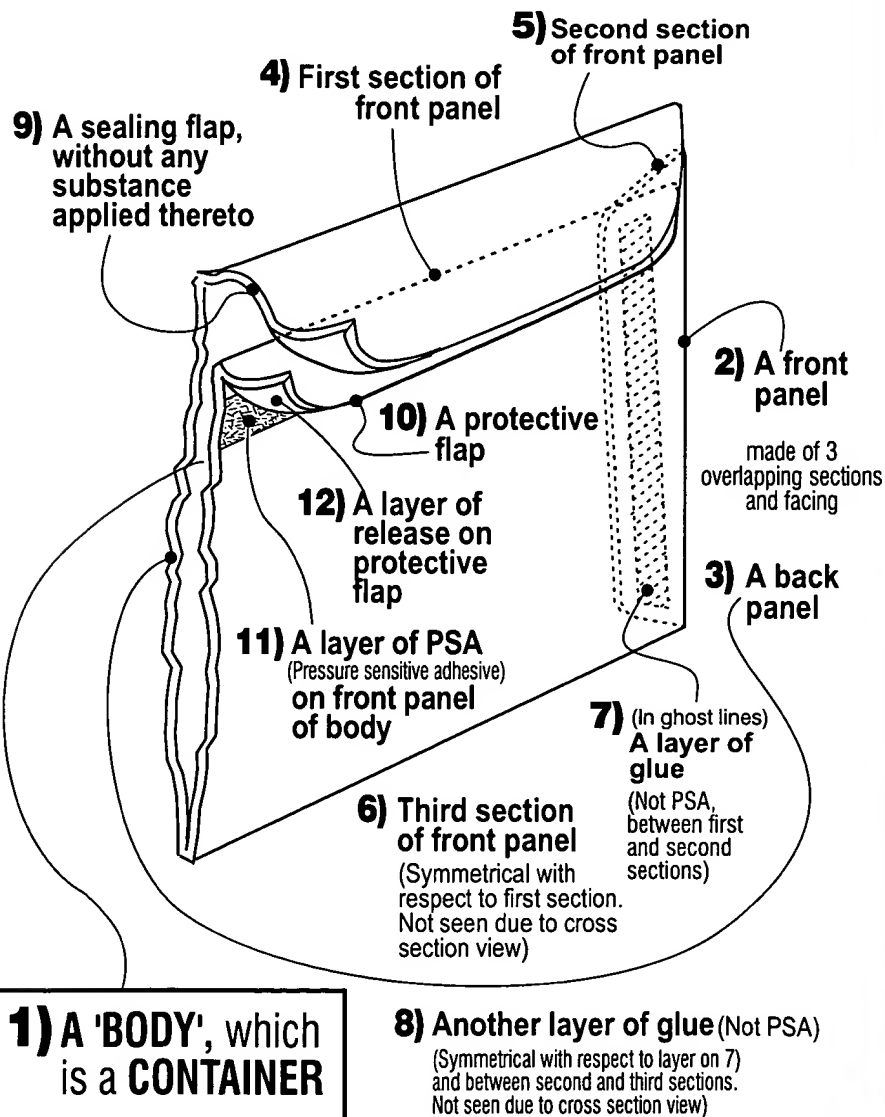
- Two different types of flaps, with different physical properties are necessary
- Sealing flap does not have adhesive, and does not have release.
- NONE of the flaps has adhesive
- ONLY one flap temporarily fastens to the body
- The finished product, during the pre-use stage, requires the larger flap to face the smaller flap, and not to be fastened to it
- The finished product has a minimum total of 5 layers (see **ATTACHMENT 28**)
- Body does not have or need any further scores
- A heat activated glue is **always** necessary
- Regardless of the number of flaps, they are **ALWAYS** of the same kind, with the same physical properties.
- Sealing flap (the only kind) **ALWAYS** has adhesive
- **ALL** the flaps have adhesive
- **ALL** the flaps temporarily fasten to the body
- The finished product, during the pre-use stage, requires **ALL** the flaps to face the body and to removably fasten to it
- The finished product has a minimum total of 2 layers (see **ATTACHMENT 28**) **Max. Is 3 layers.**
- (Optional) scores may be applied to the body
- A heat activated glue is **NEVER** necessary

The fundamental distinction imparted by “what the invention IS” with respect to “what the cited references are”, makes unnecessary and redundant any further discussion of structural differences. But even if the cited references constituted legitimate prior art—which is not the case here—there are even further radical structural differences, as follows:

WILBUR “1” FIRST Embodiment

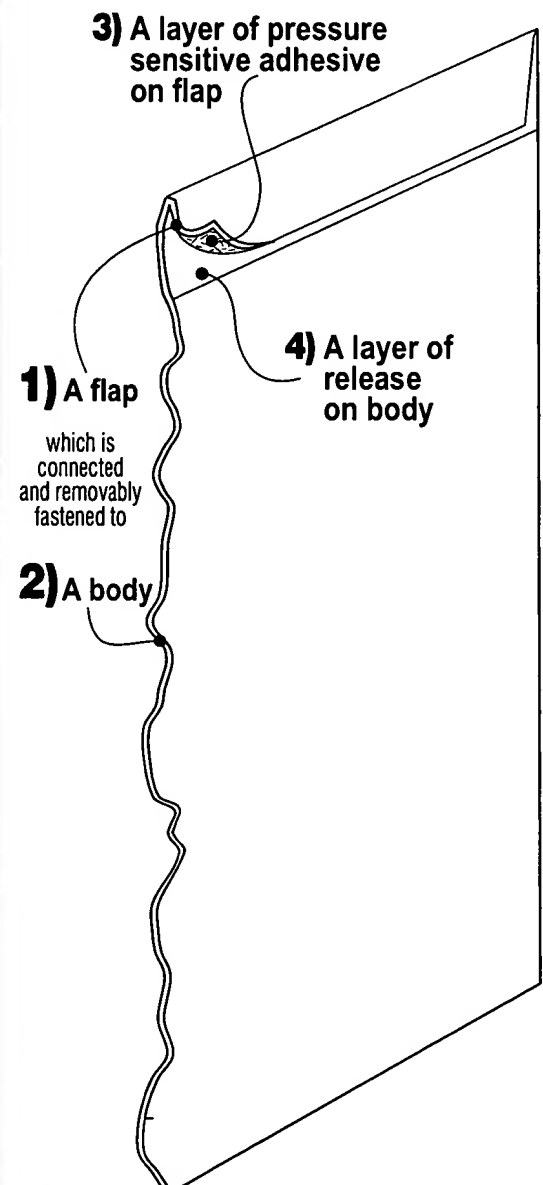
PERSPECTIVE/ CROSS SECTION

This invention has exactly the same elements and the same structural configuration as Schieman's second embodiment

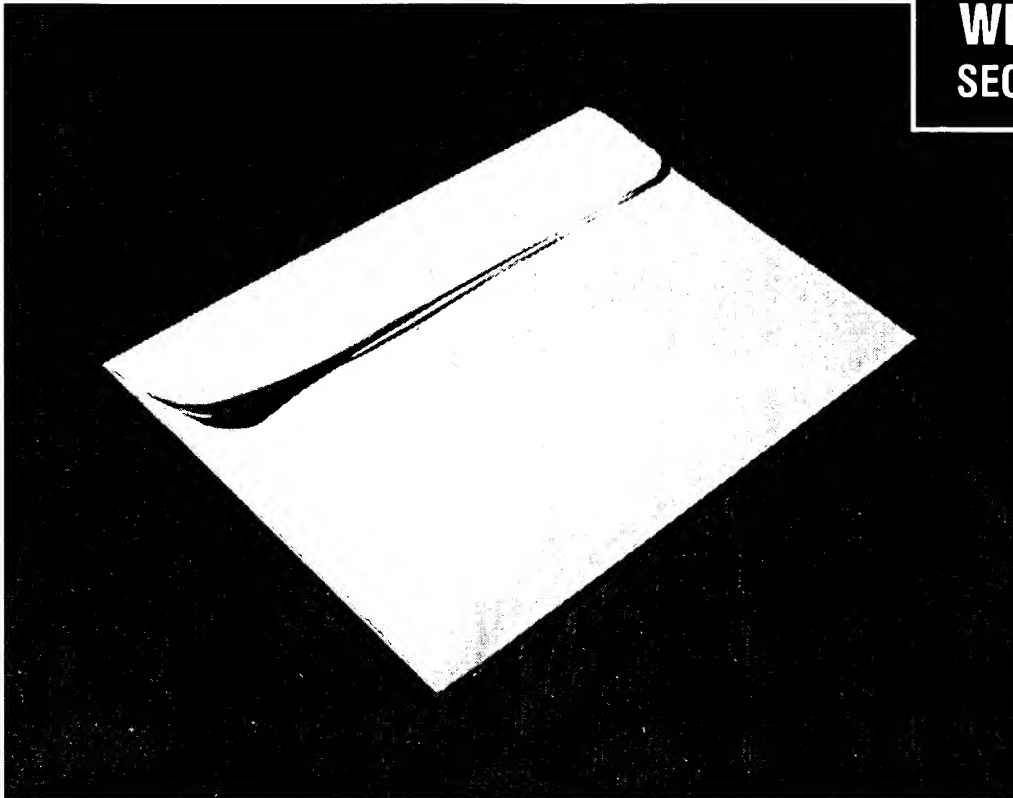


THIS INVENTION Self Sealing Letter Sheets

PERSPECTIVE/CROSS SECTION



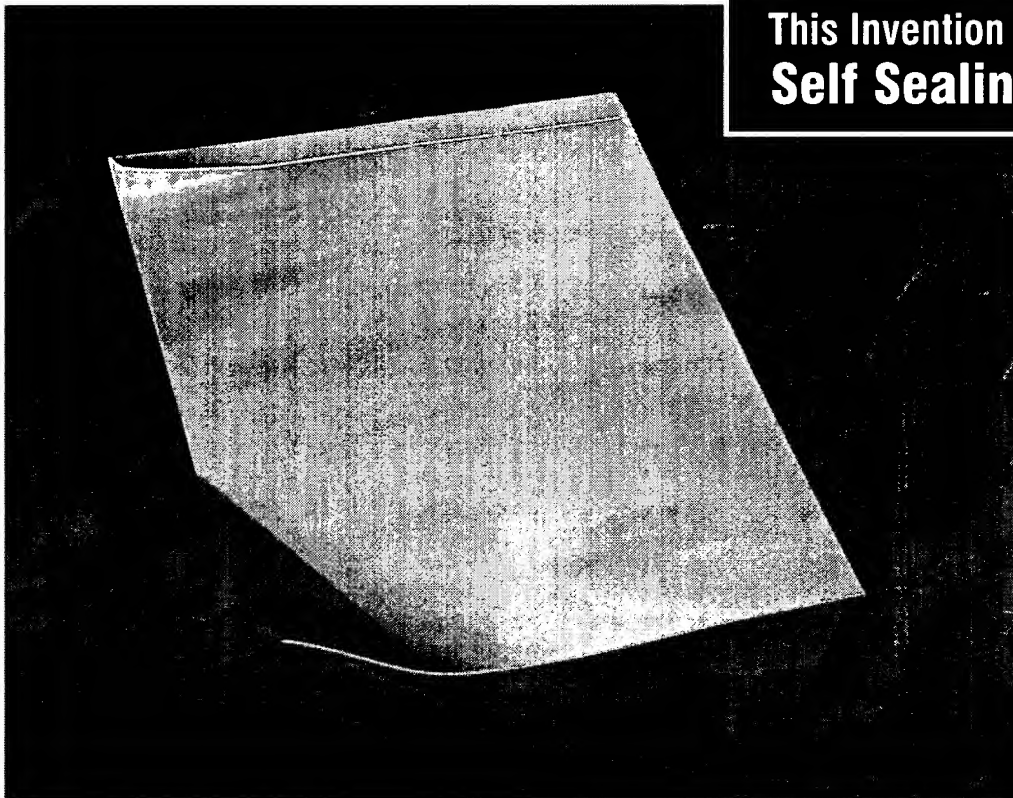
Also, see Attachment 28



WILBUR "2" SECOND Embodiment

Photo of Wilbur's second embodiment. Wilbur "2" is a **pre-assembled** container. The container has two panels, and one of the panels further has three sections, which are held together by two layers of dry adhesive. Additionally, Wilbur "2" has two flaps, namely:

- a) a sealing flap with a layer of adhesive
- b) a protective flap, which has
 - b1) a layer of release on inner side, and
 - b2) a layer of release on outer side
- c) another layer of adhesive in front panel of container ('body')



This Invention Self Sealing Letter Sheet

This invention is a letter sheet, which happens to be self-sealable.

It has a body, which is the letter sheet itself, and one or more flaps.

The flaps are all of the same kind. in its PRE-USE condition, all the flaps are connected to the body. Also, in its PRE-USE condition, the body is always unfolded. i.e. There are no "facing" panels, and hence, no containers.

The only adhesive involved is Pressure Sensitive Adhesive (**PSA**)

WILBUR "2" SECOND Embodiment

- 1** A "Body", which is a container
The body is made of:
 - 2** A front panel, facing
 - 3** A back panel,
The back panel is made of:
 - 4** A first section,
 - 5** A second section and
 - 6** A third section

The first, second and third sections are secured together by

- 7** A layer of glue (which is not pressure sensitive adhesive) between first and second sections
- 8** A layer of glue (which is not pressure sensitive adhesive) between second and third sections
- 9** A sealing flap, without any substance applied thereto
- 10** A protective flap
- 11** A layer of pressure sensitive adhesive on front panel of body
- 12** A layer of release on protective flap

THE INVENTION Self Sealing Letter Sheets

- 1** A "Body", which is a letter sheet, and **which does** not have any facing panels
- 2** (At least) one flap **connected to the body**
(The only type of flap)
- 3** (At least) one layer of adhesive on **each** flap
- 4** (At least) one layer of release **on body**

These distinctions further translate into other structural distinctions in the PRE-USE stage:

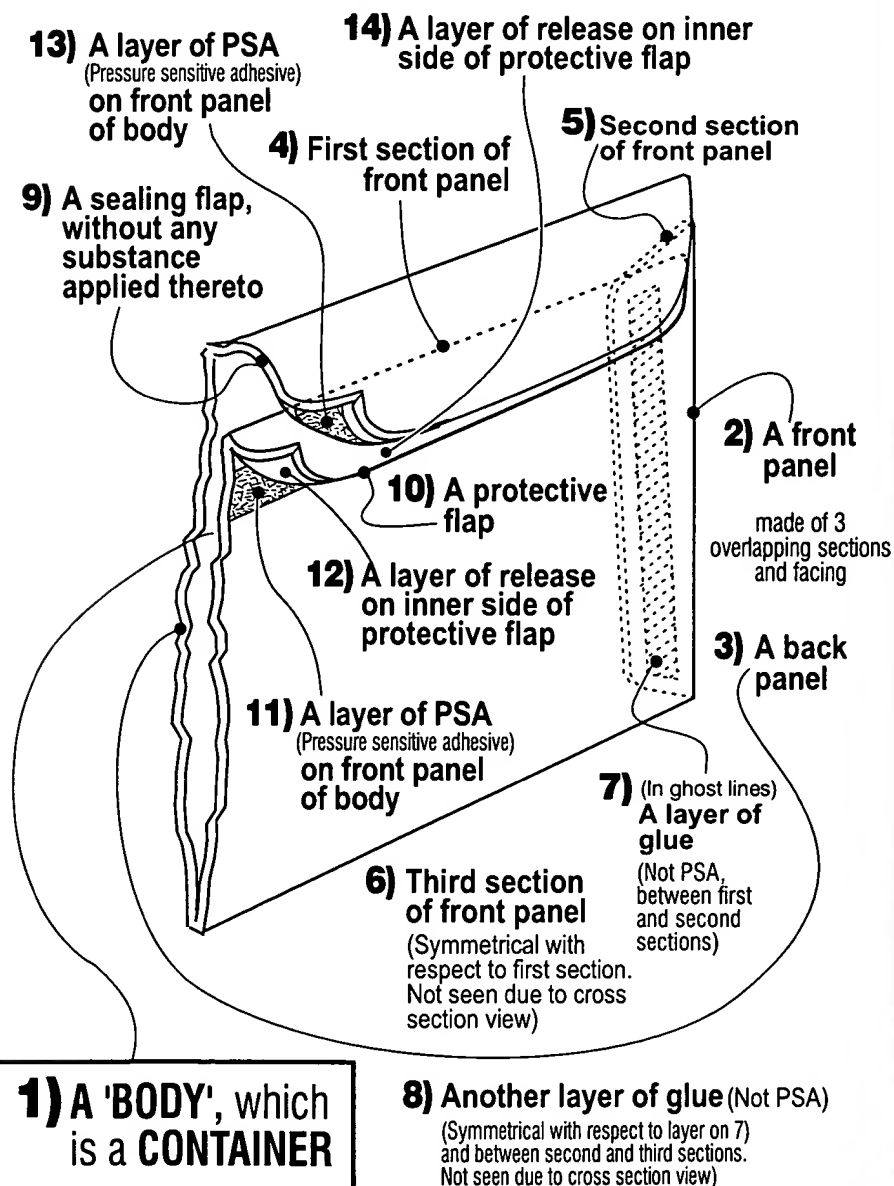
- Two different types of flaps, with different physical properties are necessary
- Sealing flap does not have adhesive, and does not have release.
- **ONLY** one of the flaps has adhesive
- **ONLY** one flap temporarily fastens to the body
- The finished product, during the pre-use stage, requires the larger flap to face the smaller flap, and to be temporarily fastened to it
- The finished product has a minimum total of 5 layers (see **ATTACHMENT 28**)
- One flap temporarily fastens to the other flap
- Body does not have or need any further scores
- A heat activated glue is **always** necessary
- Regardless of the number of flaps, they are **ALWAYS** of the same kind, with the same physical properties.
- Sealing flap (the only kind) **ALWAYS** has adhesive
- **ALL** the flaps have adhesive
- **ALL** the flaps temporarily fasten to the body
- The finished product, during the pre-use stage, requires **ALL** the flaps to face the body and to removably fasten to it
- The finished product has a minimum total of 2 layers (see **ATTACHMENT 28**) **Max. Is 3 layers.**
- Flaps do not temporarily fasten among themselves
- (Optional) scores may be applied to the body
- A heat activated glue is **NEVER** necessary

The fundamental distinction imparted by "what the invention IS" with respect to "what the cited references are", makes unnecessary and redundant any further discussion of structural differences. But even, if the cited references constituted legitimate prior art -- which is not the case here-- there are even further radical structural differences, as follows:

WILBUR "2" SECOND Embodiment

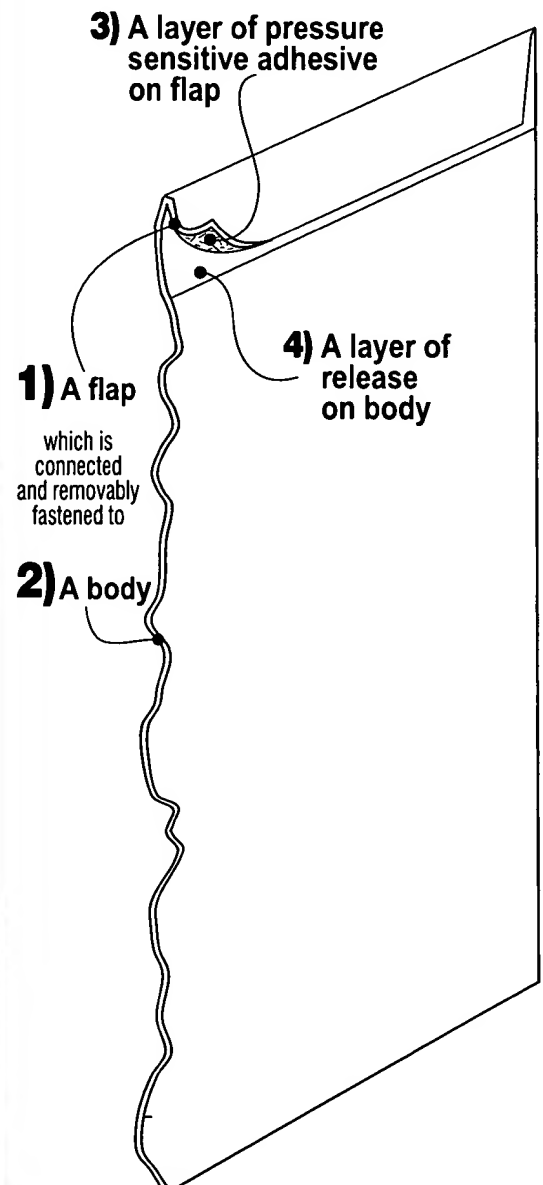
PERSPECTIVE/ CROSS SECTION

This invention has exactly the same elements and the same structural configuration as Schieman's second embodiment



THIS INVENTION Self Sealing Letter Sheets

PERSPECTIVE/CROSS SECTION



Also, see Attachment 28

About 102 and especially, 103 rejections

Important considerations regarding PSA (Pressure Sensitive adhesive), release liners and other substances

In general terms, there are two kinds of Pressure Sensitive Adhesive (PSA) formulations.

First., a 'repositionable', lower tack adhesive, just like the one used in the Post It™ products, and which given its low strength properties does not require to interact with a release liner, and which is identified by the numeral 204 in this application.

And then, there is a stronger, more aggressive adhesive, which for that reason needs to be covered with a release liner to avoid premature performance, as it is intended for more permanent applications.

This is the type of pressure sensitive adhesive that is addressed in this discussion.

This permanent adhesive is identified by the numeral **202** in this application.

By its own definition and nature, Pressure Sensitive Adhesive (**PSA**) is active all the time. The "pressure" needed is as low as the mere contact with anything to be adhered thereto. That is why it needs to be covered to protect it and prevent its inadvertent adhesion to any undesired element.

Conversely, the only purpose of a release liner—whether a removable strip or integrally coated onto the product—is to protect a **PSA** coating. If no PSA is used, no release is necessary.

Thus, the **PSA + Release system** is a user-oriented commodity, being its main application "sealing" of a product.

User must a) expose the **PSA** by separating it from the release liner and b) manually position the **PSA** in contact with a release-free surface, and exert pressure thereto.

Such procedure and mode of operation is clearly incompatible with the industrial manufacturing of any product that requires to have parts pre-adhered.

This is palpable by examining any envelope that uses **PSA** interacting with a release coating, as for instance the “Press it- Seal it”™ envelope discussed in pat. # 6,406, 586, 2nd col., First para. Or even Schieman and Wilbur envelopes.

The “container” part is already produced using conventional adhesives, which normally consist of heat activated glue. And they are always in a ‘performance condition’, i.e they are adhered to different sections of the envelope, holding them together to form a wall. Whereas the **PSA**, in the ‘**unused**’ product is in a ‘latent condition’, i.e., waiting for the user to expose it and perform the sealing.

It would simply make no sense whatsoever to use **PSA** (which is incidentally much more costly than heat activated glue in itself, but which is also much more expensive to apply to the substrate[s]) to build an envelope, i.e.:

to apply it to the sections that need to be held together to form a wall of the container of the envelope,

then apply the release to facing sections,

then removably attach the **PSA** and the release,

simply to detach them thereafter to actually build the containers,

so the rejected claims are met. *(Which additionally would need to be taught, because it is not readily apparent how this would be achieved, if at all possible)*

In brief:

PSA is only useful ‘to seal’ envelopes, never to ‘build’ them, as proposed by some 103 rejections. *This, incidentally is further proof that the current invention is NOT an envelope, as the only adhesive in this invention is either a) PSA, or b) dry adhesive which needs to be moistened by user to activate its use.*

Conversely, **nowhere** in the claims or in the the disclosure, a heat activated glue is used to build a container.

As a matter of fact **no** container-like is ever built in the **pre-use** phase. And furthermore, No two parts, sections, or panels are ever fastened together in a permanent fashion in the Pre-Use stage.

This heat activated glue used to **build** envelopes, bags and other pouches and containers is not to be confused with the “dry adhesive” recited by claim 68.

Claim 68 recites a ‘dry adhesive’, that needs to be moistened by the user to seal the envelope, whenever such sealing is desired, and which is not active, and even less, connecting sections of the piece to build one of the walls or panels to form an envelope.

So, no glue in ‘performing condition’ is in the embodiment recited by claim **68** either, as the ‘dry adhesive’ **202** is also in a ‘latent condition’. Waiting to be enabled by the user.

In other words, the dry adhesive recited by claim 68 is of the same kind that conventional envelopes have on their flaps, so the user licks it or otherwise moistens it to seal it.

(O.A. 15) O.A. rejected claims 45-47, 62-64, and 66 under 102(b) as being anticipated by Schieman

Applicant Respectfully submits that this is not believed to be a valid reference.

For all the reasons on record, starting with the fact that Schieman is a structurally (and functionally) different product, it is inconceivable that an envelope (a container) could anticipate a letter sheet. Please, see the discussion of "What the Invention Is" on pages 27 and 31 of this amendment, and How to Use the Invention" on pages 28-30 of this amendment, also submitted as attachments 15 and 16 respectively.

Also, please, refer to Model (Exhibit A) submitted herewith under 37 CFR 1.91 (a)(3), models of Schieman (Exhibits B, and C) submitted under 37 CFR 1.91 (a)(1) and illustrated comparison of Schieman with this invention on pages 40-45 of this amendment

Also, please refer to **ATTACHMENTS 21, 22 and 25-27.**

(O.A. 15) O.A. states that Schieman discloses a mono-sectional body

This is believed to be incorrect.

The body of Schieman is 'tetra-sectional', as it has four (4) sections, namely: a first wall made of one section, and a second wall made of three overlapping sections. Schieman's body further requires two layers of non-pressure sensitive adhesive (heat activated), to fasten together the three sections of the second wall. Schieman is therefore, anything but 'mono-sectional'

Please, see comparison of Schieman with this invention, on pages 42 and 45 of this amendment; see **ATTACHMENTS 25-27, 29 and 30. See Exhibits B and C.**

Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of any rejection based on this premise, because this is believed to be a false premise.

(O.A. 15) **O.A. states that the term "letter sheet" does not define over Schieman.**

Applicant respectfully submits that just as the term "letter sheet" defines a product that is completely different than a container, it imparts categoric distinction over Schieman's. A self sealing letter sheet is just a letter sheet that happens to have self-sealing attributes. (See discussion of "What the Invention Is" on pages 26 and 30 of this amendment, and ATTACHMENTS 20-22, 25-27, 29 and 30.) Please, see MPEP 2111.02.

Also, see MPEP 2131: "To anticipate a claim, the reference must teach every element of the claim."

Also, see Exhibits A, B and C.

Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of any rejection based on the contention that the term letter sheet does not define over Schieman, because this is not believed to be the case here.

This 102 rejection, as any other 102 rejection presented against this application is believed to be invalid as they all are related to an envelope, a product structurally (and also functionally) different than this invention.

If it is not analogous... how can it anticipate the invention?

Furthermore, even if hypothetically, Schieman was a valid reference—which clearly is not—there are structural differences so radical and evident that Schieman could not prevent patentability. Please, see comparison of Schieman with this invention on Pages 41-46 of this amendment C. Also, see ATTACHMENTS 25-27.

Thus, even if considered a valid reference, claim 45 requires that to produce the self sealing letter sheet, the (at least) one, two, three or 'N' flaps be in contact with the body. i.e., **each** flap needs to be in contact with the body, and remain in a temporarily fastened condition until sealing is desired. And sealing is a function of use, which therefore is not relevant to the structural recitation of the claim, as pointed out by the Office on page 10 of action dated June 20/02. But in any event, sealing is achieved by folding the body, and placing it into contact with the flap, while avoiding the release layer.

Whereas

Schieman requires in both embodiments that the smaller flap be in contact with the larger flap, prior to sealing the envelope, and it does not require that both flaps temporarily fasten to the body. (And in any event, sealing the envelope, which is not a structural element, but rather a step of use, does NOT require folding of the body.)

And looking at it from another angle:

*Even if hypothetically speaking, and by virtue of some imaginary nomenclature stretching, the self sealing form of the present invention is called an "envelope", it is completely different to "Schieman's" or anybody's envelope, as it would be an **unassembled** envelope (**Which is in itself a contradiction, as what constitutes and defines an envelope is its assembly as such**) that would have to be assembled by the user. And it has been established that use steps do not provide limitations in an article claim. Further, the construction is completely different, and furthermore, no **heat activated glue** is involved in the process.*

Regarding claims 62-64 and 66, this is also believed to be an invalid rejection, because:

Notwithstanding the fact that Schieman's "body" is a container,

notwithstanding the fact that Schieman's "body" is not mono-sectional, but is rather tetra-sectional, as it is made of two facing panels, and one of these panels is made of three overlapping sections, that are **glued** together,

claim 62 requires that to produce the self sealing form, the (at least) one, two, three or 'N' flaps overlap the body. i.e. **each** flap needs to be in contact with the body, and remain in a temporarily fastened condition until sealing is desired. And sealing is a function of use, which therefore is not relevant to the structural recitation of the claim, as pointed out by the Office on page 10 of action dated June 20/02. But in any event, sealing is achieved by folding the body, and placing it into contact with the flap, while avoiding the release layer.

Whereas

Schieman requires in both embodiments that the smaller flap be in contact with the larger flap, prior to sealing the envelope. (And in any event, sealing the envelope, which is not a structural element, but rather a step of use, does NOT require folding of the body.)

Applicant respectfully requests adequate consideration of these arguments. These arguments are fully supported by the specification, previous amendments and attachments submitted, and therefore, respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection. (Please, see MPEP 2144.08 about rebuttal evidence. "...Office Personnel should consider all rebuttal arguments and evidence presented by applicants..."

(O.A. 16, 17) **O.A. rejected** claims 45-47, 49-51, 53-55, 57, 58, 62-64, 66 and 67 under 103(a) as unpatentable over Johnson, in view of Wilbur or Schieman.

Applicant respectfully submits that one of the references is believed not to be valid and hence it can not be a part of a 103 rejection, and further:

For all the reasons on record, starting with the fact that Schieman and Wilbur are structurally (and functionally) different products with respect to this invention, it is inconceivable that an envelope (a container) would be combined with a 'Reply Letter Sheet' to produce... **what?**

The only outcome of such combination, if a useful product is obtained, would be of necessity a new species. And if that in fact occurs, such combination is by its own nature and by statute novel and patentable. Please, refer to the discussion "What the Invention Is" on pages 27 and 31 of this amendment. Also, please see comparison of Schieman with this invention on pages 40-45 of this amendment. Also, see **ATTACHMENTS 25-27**.

Furthermore, and as indicated before,

claim 45 requires that to produce the self sealing letter sheet, the (at least) one, two, three or 'N' flaps be in contact with the body. i.e. **each** flap needs to be in contact with the body, and remain in a temporarily fastened condition until sealing is desired. And sealing is a function of use, which therefore is not relevant to the structural recitation of the claim, as pointed out by the Office on page 10 of action dated June 20/02. But in any event, sealing is achieved by folding the body, and placing it into contact with the flap, while avoiding the release layer.

Whereas

Schieman requires in both embodiments that the smaller flap be in contact with the larger flap, prior to sealing the envelope. (And in any event, sealing the envelope, which is not a structural element, but rather a step of use, does NOT require folding the body of the envelope.)

These additional differences further disqualify Schieman as a valid reference.

Now, referring to Wilbur's first embodiment, (See Exhibit D) all of the above apply because it is essentially a replica of Schieman's second embodiment (See Exhibit C). Please, refer to comparison of Wilbur's first embodiment with this invention on pages 47-49 of this amendment. Also, see **ATTACHMENT 28**.

And Wilbur's second embodiment is even much more different as it further requires an additional layer of release on the outer side of the tab 20, and a layer of adhesive on upper flap 16, which is to interact with the other layer of adhesive 30. Please, refer to comparison of Wilbur's second embodiment with this invention on pages 50-52 of this amendment. Also, see **ATTACHMENT 28**.

So, these differences also disqualify Wilbur as a valid reference.

And since they both belong to another species, there is no reason whatsoever to combine them with Johnson.

And, Johnson's disclosure itself teaches away from such combination. Johnson states on 3rd paragraph of col.1: *"The primary object of this invention is to provide a reply letter of simplified construction, as compared to that of my pending application, while retaining the advantages accruing from a tear string arrangement operable by the original recipient and by the return addressee."*

And such tear strings 15 and 17 are to be mounted by glue, or other adhesive means to the material of the sheet letter. (See col. 2, lines 61-65)

For obvious practical reasons, the system of the present invention, requires that the release layer is applied first, then the pressure sensitive adhesive. (If the adhesive —Pressure Sensitive Adhesive— is applied first, the coating of release will be prevented, as the exposed **and active** adhesive will adhere to rollers and other parts of the equipment used.

To commercially produce the letter sheets, the incorporation of Johnson's intrinsic tear string poses a serious problem, because if the strings are applied before the pressure sensitive adhesive, they will disturb the coating of the latter. If the pressure sensitive is applied first, and before their folding, the pressure sensitive will be exposed, and therefore will obstruct the mounting of the strings. If the flaps are folded, then the mounting of the strings would have to be performed manually, dramatically increasing production costs.

Since the adhesive necessary to mount the strings is of the same kind of the dry

adhesive necessary to seal the letter, a system whereby both, the coating of the sealing adhesive and the mounting of the strings can be sequentially achieved, should be implemented to maximize efficiency and reduce costs. This clearly teaches away from using a pressure sensitive adhesive, anywhere in the piece.

Furthermore, as a key feature of the present invention is to be suitable for laser printers and other friction and heat generating machines, the incorporation of interactive release and pressure sensitive adhesive is not compatible with Johnson's invention, because the tear string will be exposed at all times, and worse yet, the mounting adhesive of the tear string will also be exposed and hence activated by the heat, or at least disturbed and/or be disturbed by the rollers of the machine, which will inevitably jam the piece inside the printer or machine. Johnson teaches away from using pressure sensitive adhesive. Without Pressure Sensitive adhesive there's no need to use a release layer. Accordingly, there is no motivation to the suggested combination, and as established before, there's no reasonable expectation of success to produce such combination, and even less expectation of success for its use. Please, see MPEP 2143.

Also, please see **Affidavit 1, section II**; which demonstrates a 'long felt need in the art', and 'failure of others' by way of showing references structurally closer to this invention than those cited by the Office, which disprove any instance of 'obviousness' See **MPEP 716.02** . See also ATTACHMENT 9 submitted with Amendment A.

Now referring to Office Action's assertion starting on page 6, 2nd line, as follows:
"...flaps 8, 8, and 9 which contain adhesive and folded onto panel 4, but not sealed thereto. It would have been obvious to provide panel 4 of Johnson with adhesive inhibitor adjacent to flaps 8, 8, and 9 as taught by either Wilbur at 24 or Schieman at 4, because the inhibitor would have prevented unintentional sealing of flaps 8, 8 and 9 to the form..."

That would simply be a waste of the adhesive inhibitor. As stated on the first sentence of the very quote above *"...flaps 8, 8, and 9 which contain adhesive and folded onto panel 4, but not sealed thereto."* So there is no need whatsoever to

use an adhesive inhibitor to interact with a layer of dry adhesive, as the adhesive is not active, i.e., does not need any *inhibition*. In any event, for all the reasons presented, these claims depend on allowable claims, and since they offer yet more limitations, they are a fortiori patentable.

As for the comment regarding claim 47, which as a dependent claim receives all the limitations of independent claim 45, and is therefore patentable, applicant respectfully offers correction to the allusion that pressure sensitive is "old and well known for use with envelope flaps", because the present invention is not an envelope.

Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection, as it is believed that it does not have any valid basis.

(O.A. 18) **O.A. rejected** claims 48, 52, 56, 60 and 65 under 103(a) as unpatentable over Johnson, in view of Wilbur or Schieman, and further in view of Stenner

Applicant respectfully submits that three of the references are believed not to be valid, and hence they can not be a part of a 103 rejection, and further:

For all the reasons on the record, starting with the fact that Schieman and Wilbur are structurally (and functionally) different products with respect to this invention, (Please, see discussion of "What the Invention Is, on page 27 of this amendment)

And Stenner is a multiple envelope with enclosures, which disqualifies it as a reference against a self sealing letter sheet.

Thus, it is inconceivable that an envelope, and a reply sheet be combined with a piece of 'direct mail' with plurality of envelopes and enclosures... to produce...

What?

The only outcome of such combination, if it results in a useful product, would be of

necessity a new species. And if that in fact occurs, such combination is by its own nature and by statute novel and patentable.

Schieman's "body" is a container, having two facing panels, and one of the two facing panels is made of three overlapping sections secured together by the use of two layers of a heat activated adhesive. Further, Schieman requires that in the pre-use condition, the two flaps are in contact to one another, while this invention requires that the flap is in contact and temporarily fastened to the body, which is a one single ply of a sheet material, and which therefore has no container portion. See ATTACHMENTS 21, 22, and 25-27. Also, see pages 41 and 44 of this amendment. See Exhibits B and C.

Wilburs' first embodiment is identical to Schieman's second embodiment, and hence is also invalid. Wilbur's second embodiment has even more differentiating features, as it requires a layer of release on the outer side of the smaller (bottom) flap, and a layer of adhesive on the inner side of the (larger) top flap. See ATTACHMENTS 23, 24 and 28. Also, see pages 47 and 50 of this amendment. See Exhibits D and E.

Since Johnson is a product different than Schieman or Wilbur, there could not be a reason or motivation to combine them, and even if they could hypothetically be combined, Johnson's tear string makes undesirable such combination, as coating of the pressure sensitive adhesive would be obstructed by the tear string if applied first, and vice versa. Also, the permanently exposed adhesive of the tear string will prevent the feeding of the form trough heat and friction generating printers and machines. Therefore, there is no motivation to combine Johnson with Wilbur or Schieman, if such combination were hypothetically possible, and there is not reasonable expectation of success in producing such device in a cost effective way, and even less expectation of success to use it with friction or heat generating printers.

Thus, rejection of claims 48, 52, 56, 60 and 65 further combining such believed invalid combination with Stenner can only result in another invalid rejection.

Claims 48, 52, 56, 60 and 65, relate to a series of detachable letter sheets. A letter sheet is produced, and then offered to the public having its **body** in an **unfolded** condition. The only 'folding' of the **letter sheet** relates to having the flap(s) bent towards the body. The purpose of doing this is to a) protect the adhesive on the flap by contact with the release on the body and b) keeping flap and body removably fastened to one another so the letter sheet is in a flatter, steadier condition for handling, packaging, displaying, and very importantly: printing.

But continuous-detachable self sealing letter sheets per se are not a finished mailing piece. The letter sheet is manufactured according to description of FIGS. 15A-15B; 16; 18; 20A-20E and 21 and their corresponding text on the specification, and it is offered to the user in that condition. Then, the user must print or write the information, and then detach, fold and seal the piece.

For this reason, the interaction of the pressure sensitive adhesive and the release is convenient and advantageous to the user. Because s/he will be able to seal the letter sheet without having to use an envelope, a staple, a piece of tape or any other foreign element. Please, see discussion about PSA, release and other substances on **pages 53-55** of this amendment.

But Stenner discloses "direct mail articles and commercial methods for preparing large numbers of such articles, each of which comprises a plurality of envelopes containing one or more enclosures"

This is very eloquent about the structural distinction of the reference with respect to this invention, and the lack of purpose to incorporate release and pressure sensitive adhesive into Stenner.

First, this establishes a categorical difference with respect to this invention in that each of Stenner's article comprises a plurality of envelopes, which further contain one or more enclosures, while each detachable article of the claims in question is one single detachable letter sheet, all the letter sheets are identical, and no enclosures are recited. No enclosures are even possible as the letter sheet does

not have any container in the pre-use condition.

And the fact that the purpose of Stenner is to prepare extremely large numbers of such articles, (see col. 2, line 51 on) coupled with the fact that the sealing of envelopes 13 occurs concurrently, or sequentially, indicates that there is no purpose or need to have release layers. There is no "temporary sealing" phase necessary in Stenner's disclosure. (See **pages 53-55** of this amendment)

And further, pressure sensitive adhesive products, by their own nature are intended to be **used** in small or even individual scales, as the "pressure" is manually provided by the user when sealing the pieces. See MPEP 2143.01: "The proposed modification cannot change the principle of operation of a reference"

Furthermore: If the adhesive is changed from dry adhesive to Pressure Sensitive Adhesive, the flaps must be folded against the body so their adhesive is protected by the release on the body. But given the necessarily extended (unfolded) configuration of all 'Composite sheets' or 'webs' 10 in all embodiments, this is physically **impossible** without first separating the enclosure device sheets 11 and the integral envelope sheets 13, which will instantly defeat the purpose of Stenner.

It is clear that not only this an inadequate reference but there is not any reason or advantage in combining it with the other references, which are also believed to be inadequate references.

Also, please see **Affidavit 1, section II**, which demonstrates a 'long felt need in the art', and 'failure of others' by way of showing references structurally closer to this invention than those cited by the Office, which disprove any instance of 'obviousness' See MPEP 716.02(e) . Also. see previously submitted **ATTACHMENT 9**, which is a photograph of product # 8325 by Avery Dennison ("Self Seal Mailer")

Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection, as it is believed that it does not have any valid basis.

(O.A. 20) O. A. contends that applicants arguments focus on what the invention is not, rather on what the claimed invention is.

Applicant respectfully submits that this is believed to be incorrect.

Original application, Unofficial submission of 03/20/02 (Later officially incorporated into Amendment A), Amendment A, Amendment B, and all the other probative attachments are focused on teaching what the invention is.

Substitute specification, submitted with Amendment B and rejected by the Office further definitely improves the definition of the invention, separating the required teachings of a) HOW TO MAKE the invention, and b) HOW TO USE the invention, which also helps to point out to the differences with the cited references.

All of this is yet further established by this Amendment C and its attachments, including a model of the invention, and models of the cited references.

Applicant further submits respectfully that any clarification about what the invention is NOT, is merely in response to the Office's contention that the invention is something different, i.e. Office contends that the invention is an envelope, and the invention is NOT an envelope (Last O.A. alone referred to this invention as an 'envelope' on three separate instances. See page 2, para. #4, line 5; page 2, para. #4, line 7; page 6, 1st para. (#17), 3rd to the last para.)

(O.A. 20) O. A. states: "The primary argument that the claimed invention does not have panels is believed to be incorrect since the body of the letter sheet is a panel"

Applicant respectfully submits that this is believed to be incorrect in every respect:

a) This is NOT the primary argument. The primary argument—if one must be selected—is that the invention is a letter sheet, as opposed to an “envelope” (a container) as alleged by the Office. In any event, all the arguments are primary to the issues that they address.

b) This is not an argument at all. Applicant respectfully submits that this is believed to be a misquote, and which is further believed to be out of any context. Nowhere in Amendment B such an unqualified statement was made. The crux of the apparent impasse here is the definition of ‘panel’ in the context of Schieman’s disclosure, (a container) and the definition of ‘panel’ in the context of this application (a letter sheet). Just like a window ‘panel’ is not equivalent to a letter sheet ‘panel’, a container ‘panel’ is not equivalent to a letter sheet panel.

The only absolute statement on Amendment B related to ‘panels’, which is hereby respectfully reiterated is that: **No claim recites any panel, because No claim recites any panel.** That is believed to be a matter of fact.

In response to June 20th Office Action’s (see page 11, 2nd paragraph) specific request to point out the difference between Schieman’s envelope and this invention, applicant submitted an

exhaustive explanation on pages 14 and 15 of Amendment B, and further referring to Attachments 11A, 11B, 12, 13 and 14.

Further, in every response to a 102 or 103 rejection, applicant summarized the argument as per the following excerpts:

“...the **claimed** product does not have any panels to **form a container...**” and “The subsequent use of the claimed invention may entail the production of ‘panels’, but that is by definition an aspect of its use or function, after the finished product was purchased by the user or otherwise made accessible to the user...” And “**Product claims** (*claim number[s] were cited here*) **do not recite any panels**”, which is another statement of fact, because **No** claim whatsoever recites any “panel”

The “two, three or four panel self sealing forms” of original **specification** relate to the panels created by their folding as a **use step**. They are **not** in the product.

c) There is no such a thing as a ‘one panel self sealing form’ anywhere in the specification. That would be improper and absurd wording. By its own definition, a panel is a division of something. Ergo, if the subject in question is not divided, no panels exist. A minimum of two panels are necessary to validate the word. It is just like the word “DIVISION” or the word “SECTION”. A unit is not a “division” of itself. If it is not divided in at least two parts, there is no division. Same with “Section”. Same with “Panel”

d) While the 'body' may be interpreted as a 'panel' of the letter sheet, the body, having no divisions, has no panels and it would not make sense to call it a 'panel' of itself.

The 'panels' in question here relate to (sections of) the body. The **claimed** body only has any 'panels' when at least one score line is applied, i.e. only claims 46, 51, 55, 58, 61, 66 and 70. *(No claim in this case had even a score line before claim 46.)*

And in such cases, the resultant 'panels' are adjacent sections which do not face one another, and which even less form a container. The body is always in an unfolded condition prior to the use of the product.

And Furthermore:

e) No claim whatsoever recites any panel at all. Before claim 46 No claim even recited a score line. **Applicant respectfully requests that Office indicates which claims recite 'panels'.**

It is impossible to recite panels, because in the context of the specification, any 'panel' related to the invention occurs as a function of its use, i.e. It is **not** in the article, before the article is used, and **all** the claims are article claims. If the 'panels' are the adjacent (Non-facing) sections resulting from eventual score lines, they certainly do not equate to the facing and mutually adhered with heat activated glue 'panels' i/e., 'Walls' of an envelope.

Applicant respectfully submits that perhaps the Office is reading disclosures related to use into the (article) claims.

f) If two 'panels' are obtained by applying a score line, (which only

appeared after claim 46, and relate to just some dependent claims) they are Non-facing, Non-folded, Non-glued, panels that do not conform a container as contended by O.A. of June 20/02; **please see page 10, # 26, stating: “...each of Applicant’s disclosed embodiments has the construction of an envelope, i.e., each includes panels and flaps secured together in a manner which forms at least one pocket into which contents can be placed”**

The “securement together” is the sealing of the letter sheet, and this is performed by the user, as a use step, which categorically marks a clear distinction with the panels of an envelope. (Please, see ATTACHMENTS 15, 18, 19, 21-30.)

And moreover: Securing together one flap and one body does not, and could not produce “at least one pocket into which contents can be placed” as asserted by the above quotation. (Please see ATTACHMENT 16, See Photo of model on page 25 of this amendment, see Exhibit A, see *illustrated* discussion of claim 50 on page 39 of this amendment). **Out of the four sides of the folded form, two sides remain disconnected, and hence no ‘pocket’ is formed, and no ‘contents’ could possibly be placed into it.**

But that would not matter anyway, because this hypothetical ‘pocket’ is not, and could not be in the product. Any ‘securement together’, any eventual ‘pocket into which contents can be placed’ is produced by the user, and as such, this is an aspect of its use, and as such, it has no effect

whatsoever in the (article) claims, as the Office itself has indicated.

Accordingly, Applicant very respectfully requests that no envelope is cited against this application, as such reference is believed to be invalid

O.A. 21) O.A. states "Furthermore, if the body has a score line to facilitate folding, the body has at least two panels"

Applicant respectfully submits that in such a case the term 'panel' does not have an equivalent meaning to the 'panel' of a container

c) If two 'panels' are obtained by applying a score line, (which only appeared after claim 46, and only some dependent claims recite) they are Non-facing, Non-folded, Non-glued, panels that do not conform a container as contended by O.A. of June 20/02. See page 10, # 26, stating: "...each of Applicant's disclosed embodiments has the construction of an envelope, i.e., each includes panels and flaps secured together in a manner which forms at least one pocket into which contents can be placed"

Applicant respectfully submits that it appears that the Office may inadvertently be doing precisely what it has repeatedly stated in O.A. and interviews that can not be done, i.e. reading use steps into the claims. The product does not have any container. If and when a container eventually results, it is produced by the user as a use step.

Accordingly, Applicant very respectfully requests that no envelope is cited

against this application, as such reference is believed to be invalid

o.A. 21) Office made last action FINAL.

Applicant respectfully submits that in view of all the arguments, and evidence submitted this decision is believed to be premature and accordingly reconsideration is respectfully requested

Applicant filed a Request for Continued Examination, under 37 CFR 1.114 in compliance with all the requirements and submission of the prescribed fee.

Applicant submitted a Substitute Specification, under 37 CFR 1.125 to clarify what appears to be misperceptions of the Office regarding this invention, and was dismissed on basis that are believed to be invalid.

Arguments and Attachments submitted with Amendment A, and which are believed to be erroneously interpreted by Office Action of June 20/02, as pointed out by AMENDMENT B, were not at all addressed by the last O.A. (Sept. 11/02)

New arguments and Attachments making a clear distinction of the claimed article over its mode of use and applications, submitted with Amendment B were not at all addressed by the O.A.

Notably, O.A. of June 20 specifically requested that applicant indicated structural differences between applicant's invention and Schieman's. (Please, see page 11, 2nd para). In response to this request, applicant provided a comprehensive, detailed and illustrated response, already summarized in this amendment, and further proven by additional materials submitted with this Amendment C.

However, O.A. interprets such explanation as "The primary argument [is] that the claimed invention does not have any panels (See page 7, of O.A. Dated September 11th/02.)

This interpretation is believed to be *non sequitur*, and inaccurate for the reasons already explained, and consequently, any action based on that interpretation should not have any valid effect on the prosecution of this case.

Also, O.A. concludes by stating "However this argument is irrelevant because the claims do not preclude panels and because the claims are not patentable over the prior art, as set forth in the rejections above".

The argument is relevant because the claims, do certainly preclude 'panels' that are equivalent to the cited references' panels and described by the Office as in the following excerpt from page 10, para. 26 of O.A. of June 20/02: "...each of Applicant's disclosed embodiments has the construction of an envelope, i.e., each includes panels and flaps secured together in a manner which forms at least one pocket into which contents can be placed".

As for the patentability over the prior art, applicant respectfully refers to all the preceding arguments, attachments and exhibits.

Another notable obstruction in the prosecution of this case has been what is perceived as a loose and liberal interpretation of certain terms, which conflicts with the meaning in the specification, and which has served as basis for some rejections. These terms include:

Form: In the context of this application, and fully supported by the specification, drawings, arguments, and all attachments, a form is a letter sheet. Hence, a self sealing form is a self sealing letter sheet.

(Not an envelope as alleged by the Office) Please, see Affidavit 4.

Envelope: In the context of this application, and fully supported by the specification, drawings, arguments, and all attachments, an envelope is an already built and assembled container when it is offered to the public. All the user has to do is to 'stuff' it and seal it. User does not have to assemble

it. Please, see Affidavit 4.

Correspondence: In the context of this application, and fully supported by the specification, drawings, arguments, and attachments, “correspondence” is a message. Therefore, an envelope is not a piece of correspondence.

Body: In the context of this application, and fully supported by the specification, drawings, arguments, attachments, amendments and affidavits, the body of the self sealing letter sheet is the one-ply, unfolded **letter sheet itself**. Just like the ***“body” of a vehicle is not analogous to the body of a letter sheet, the “body” of a container is not analogous to the body of a letter sheet.***

Panels: In the context of this application, and fully supported by the specification, drawings, arguments and attachments, the panels of the body of a letter sheet IF and WHEN exist DURING THE PRE-USE phase—as the result of the production a score line—are merely side by side sections, and are never in a facing condition and much less glued together to conform a container. ***Just like the ‘panels’ of a roof are not analogous to the ‘panels’ of a letter sheet, the ‘panels’ of a container are not analogous to the panels of a letter sheet.*** Please, see MPEP 2111.01.

In view of all of the above, applicant very respectfully requests withdrawal of the finality of the last O.A., a substantive response to the arguments in Amendment A, and Amendment B, reconsideration of the claims in Amendment B, and entry of the substitute specification. Alternatively, applicant requests allowance of amended claims submitted herewith, which provide yet further limitations. Please, see MPEP 706.07(c) and MPEP 707.07

Likewise, applicant respectfully requests full consideration of this amendment, including newly submitted claims, as it places the case in better condition for allowance and/or appeal.

Conclusion

Application Is In Condition for Allowance

Conditional Request for Constructive Assistance

Application is believed to be in condition for allowance, action which is hereby respectfully requested.

If for any reason, this application is not believed to be in full condition for allowance,

Applicant respectfully requests the constructive assistance and suggestions of the examiner pursuant to MPEP section 706.03 9d) and section 707.07 (j) in order that the undersigned can place this application in allowable condition as soon as possible and without the need for further proceedings.

Very respectfully,



Luis J. Rodriguez

-----Applicant Pro Se-----

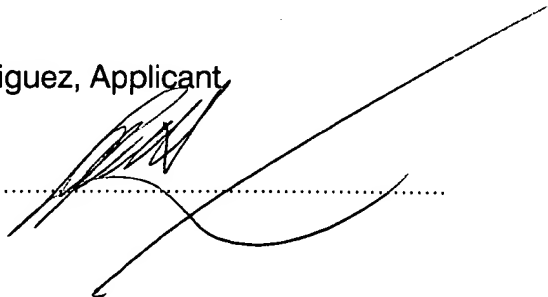
60 Fourth Street
South Orange, NJ 07079-1851
Tel. (973) 761-1300; Fax:(973) 761-6488

Date of Mailing: October 17, 2002

I hereby certify that this correspondence, including its attachments is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "EXPRESS MAIL TO ADDRESSEE" Service **EU149703855US** under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above, and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Box AF Washington, D.C. 20231

Luis J. Rodriguez, Applicant

Signed:



ATTACHMENT 15

See also ATTACHMENT 16
"How to use the Invention"

What the Invention Is

In order to fully understand what a self sealing letter sheet is, it is helpful to have a clear notion of what a (non-self sealing) letter sheet is. To that end, and to further establish the advantages of a self sealing letter sheet over a (non-self sealing) letter sheet the left column shows a conventional (non-self sealing) letter sheet. The right column describes the letter sheet of the present invention.

PRIOR ART Letter Sheet

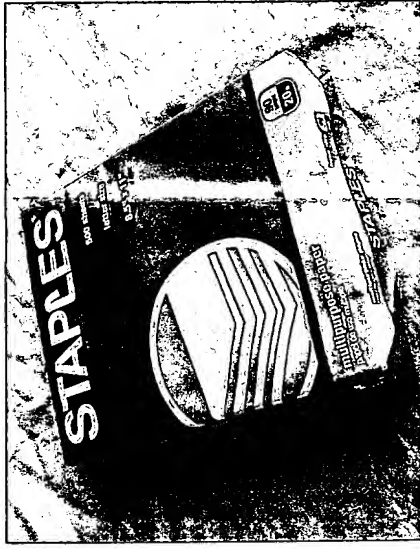


Photo of a packaged ream of letter sheets as it is marketed.

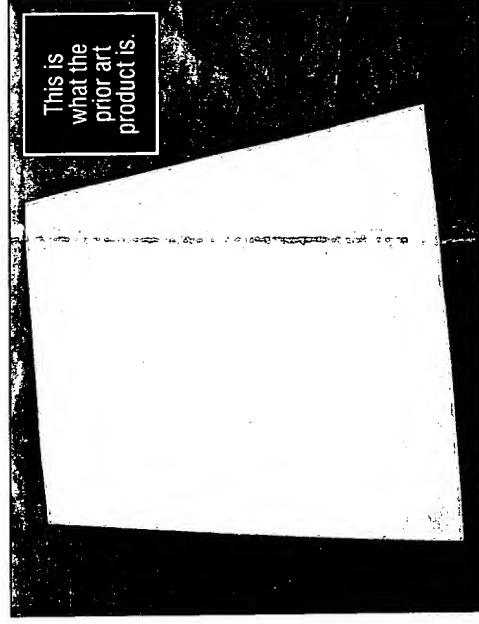


Photo of a single letter sheet

The Invention: SELF SEALING LETTER SHEET



Invention is not yet marketed, however it could be similarly packaged

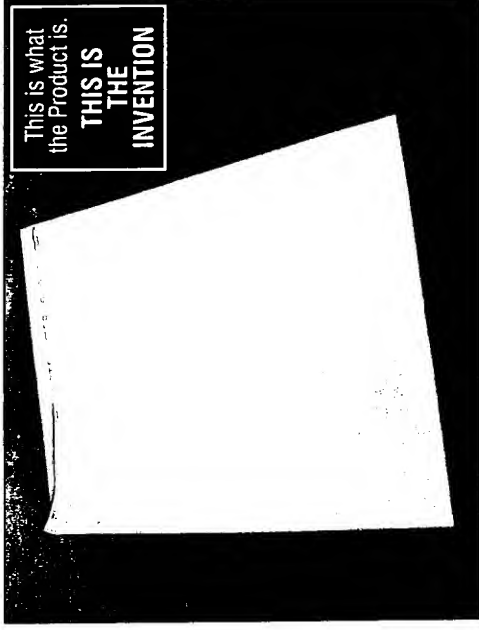


Photo of a single self sealing letter sheet. To better show the different elements, flap was partially lifted.

ATTACHMENT 16

How to USE the invention

Pictures and text on the left column show the prior art, and by contrast, the advantages of the invention on the right column will be readily evident.

PRIOR ART Letter Sheet

Photo of a letter sheet after printing took place.
This is a use step.

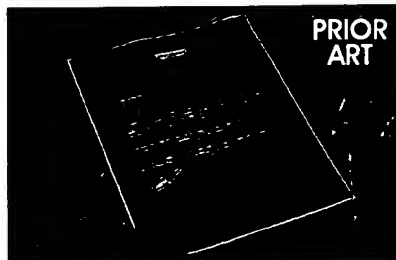


Photo of a letter sheet being folded in half.
This is a use step.



Photo of a 6" x 9" envelope, which will be necessary to contain the letter sheet.

Alternatively, a piece of tape or a staple may be used to seal the letter sheet of the prior art, but in any event, this is another step of use.

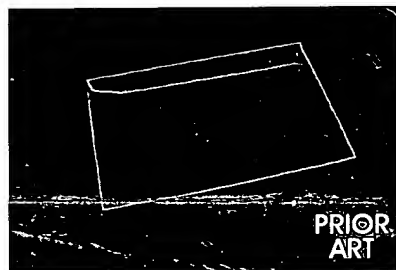


Photo of a letter sheet being inserted into the envelope.
This is another use step.



Photo of the release liner being removed, as another use step.

Alternatively, if another type of envelope is used, a dry adhesive would need to be moistened, or if Schieman's envelope is used, the flaps would need to be set for sealing.

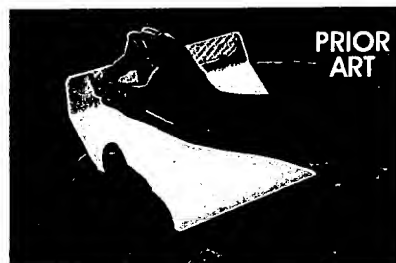
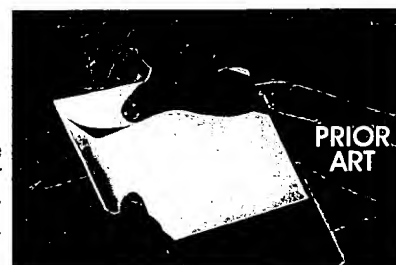


Photo of the envelope now containing the letter sheet while is being sealed.
This is another use step.



The Invention: SELF SEALING LETTER SHEET

Photo of a self sealing letter sheet after printing took place. Flap was partially lifted so it is better distinguished in the photo.

This is an aspect of its use.

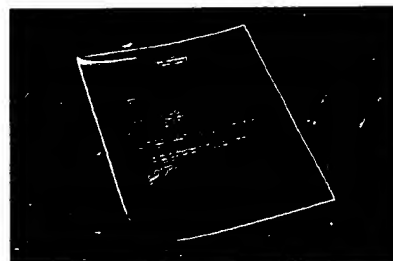


Photo of a self sealing letter sheet being folded in half.
This is an aspect of its use.

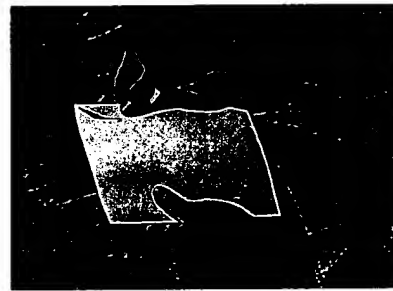


Photo of the flap of the self sealing letter sheet being lifted.
This is another use step.



Photo of a self sealing letter sheet being sealed.
This is an aspect of its use.

Other embodiments of the invention disclose side flaps to provide enhanced privacy.



FEWER STEPS WERE REQUIRED TO
SEAL THE SELF SEALING LETTER SHEET
OF THE PRESENT INVENTION, AND THE NEED
FOR AN ENVELOPE WAS ELIMINATED.

See also ATTACHMENT 15 "What the Invention Is"

Patent Application of
Luis J. Rodriguez
for

TITLE: [SELF SEALING FORMS] SELF SEALING LETTER SHEETS

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This is a division of Ser. No. 09/130,534 filed August 04, 1998, now U.S. Patent 6,406,586, which is a continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 09/093,301 filed June 08, 1998, now abandoned, which is a continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 08/986,394, filed Dec. 08, 1997, now abandoned.

BACKGROUND-FIELD OF THE INVENTION

This invention relates to [forms,] letter sheets particularly to such [forms] letter sheets that can be self sealed, obviating thereby the need [of] for an envelope. The term [form] "letter" in this application [encompasses letters, documents, forms, and any type of correspondence. A form can also be described as a mailer or any other equivalent term. The term self sealing form is equivalent to the term "self contained form" as disclosed in co-pending parent application 09,130,534, which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety.] relates to a

- ① blank of a sheet material susceptible of bearing text and/or graphics whether manually,
- ② mechanically or otherwise created. Accordingly, the term "self sealing letter" relates to a letter
- ③ sheet so defined, and which additionally does not require an envelope to cover it to provide privacy, as the letter sheet of the present invention can readily cover itself. For the purpose of
- ④ this disclosure, the word "letter" in the term "letter sheet" does not have a size restricting connotation; i.e., it should not be construed to indicate a "letter" size sheet, but instead it applies to any dimensions which enable the embodiment of the disclosed invention.

MARKED COPY

Substitute Specification

— Page 1 of 31 —

Application of Luis J. Rodriguez (09/978,215)

③ REGARDING THE NON-REQUIREMENT OF AN ENVELOPE

See Abstract, first line.

See page 1, 2nd para.,
page 4, 4th para.

④ REGARDING THE SIZE OF THE "LETTER SHEET"

The original name, "Self Sealing Forms" did not entail the limitations that may be inherently suggested by the word "letter" in the term "self sealing letter", i.e. a letter may be construed by some as only an 8½ " x 11" blank of paper. Hence, this clarification only intends to keep the disclosure as broad as originally filed.

Additionally, see Figs. 10A-10D; 11; 14A-14B; 17A- 17B; 23A-23B; 24A-24C and 25A-25D, which show sheets that are not proportional to "letter" size, i.e. 8½ " x 11"

① REGARDING THE TERM "BLANK"

Refer to **claim 17**.

Refer also to Original specification's Figs. 7A, 9A, 10A, 12A, 14A, 15A, 17A, 18, 19A, 20A, 21, 22A, 24A and 25.

Numeral **207** is always a piece of a sheet material, i.e. "a blank".

② REGARDING SUSCEPTIBILITY TO CARRY TEXT AND OR GRAPHICS, MANUALLY, MECANICALLY OR OTHERWISE ENTERED:

See Abstract. First 2 lines.
(Related to "Mechanically or otherwise")

See Abstract. Last 2 lines.
(Related to "Manually")

See page 4, 6th para. [d)],
8th para. [f)], 9th para. [g)]
(Related to "mechanically"
"or otherwise".

Printers operate "mechanically" or "otherwise", electrically, electronically, etc.

See page 5, 8th para. [p)]
(Related to "manually")

See Figs. 7C-7F; 9C-9F;
10C-10F; 11, 12C-12F;
14B-14D; 16; 17-17D, 17F;
19B; 20B-20C; 22B-22C;
23B-23D; 24B-24M; 25C-25M, 25O. (Related to
"Mechanically or otherwise"

See Figs. 7C-7D, 9C-9D, 10A-10D, 12C-12D 14B, 17B, which respectively show a letter that needs to be signed. Also, see Fig. 8, which shows a set of a check and stubs. The check needs to be manually signed.

Fig 24K shows a survey form, after it was manually filled out. Fig. 25L shows a credit card application, after it was filled out and signed. (Related to "Manually")

FURTHER: An Applicant may amend the specification or drawings by "making explicit a disclosure which was implicit in the application as filed. In re Wright, 343 F.2d 761. See also Helms Prods. V. Lake Shore Mfg Co., 227 F.2d ("the amendments to the specification merely render explicit what had been implicitly disclosed originally, and while new language has certainly been added, we are not prone to believe all new 'language' ipso facto as 'new matter.'")

BACKGROUND-DESCRIPTION OF PRIOR ART

Whether it is one individual piece or a massive list of pieces, personalization is a ruling constant in any mailing project in today's private and public sectors. Hence, functionality, economy and versatility are very desirable qualities associated with these projects.

Many attempts have been made to achieve these qualities, aimed at designing mailing products that do not require an envelope, or that produce the message and a cover for it in one single step, and most of these efforts have been restricted to continuous feeding systems (e.g. web presses and friction printers) as opposed to non-continuous or sheet fed printers (e.g. laser, inkjet, thermal and litho printers.)

The following are notable exponents of the known art:

U.S. Patent 4,586,651 to Bradley, assigned to Bedford Engineering Co. of Armonk, NY; U.S. Patent 5,125,562 to Bendel; U.S. Patent 5,398,867 to Murphy; U.S. Patent 5,553,774 to Goodno, assigned to Moore Business Forms, Inc. of Grand Island, NY; and U.S. Patent 5,640,835 to Muscoplat.

These are specific shortcomings of these exponents of the known art:

- 1) No [system] product addresses both, continuous and non continuous feeding printing needs,
- 2) Some of these [systems] products require the forming of enclosure and envelope separately, utilizing thereby additional materials and assembly time, also increasing the postage cost due to its higher weight,
- 3) Some of these [systems] products require double sided printing of the piece, increasing the costs and also increasing the risk of mismatch due to human error,
- 4) Some of these [systems] products require a complex industrial set-up, limiting thereby the options of the end user, and preventing the on-location final output by end user,
- 5) Some of these [systems] products use unprotected and exposed coatings of adhesive, during the preparation, printing and forming of the piece, compromising thereby the effectiveness of the adhesive, the appearance of the finished piece, the privacy of the message, and the good flow of the overall project,
- 6) Some of these [systems] products require adhesive coatings to be moistened to promote

**① REGARDING THE
NON-REQUIREMENT
OF AN ENVELOPE**

See Abstract, first line.

See page 1, 2nd para.,
page 4, 4th para.

**② REGARDING THE
PRODUCTION OF
MESSAGE AND COVER
IN ONE STEP**

See page 2, 4th para. [2]],
also see page 4, 4th para.

MARKED COPY

Substitute Specification

— Page 2 of 31 —

Application of Luis J. Rodriguez (09/978,215)

FURTHER: An Applicant may amend the specification or drawings by "making explicit a disclosure which was implicit in the application as filed. In re Wright, 343 F.2d 761. See also Helms Prods. V. Lake Shore Mfg Co., 227 F.2d ("the amendments to the specification merely render explicit what had been implicitly disclosed originally, and while new language has certainly been added, we are not prone to believe all new 'language' ipso facto as 'new matter.'")

Also, see: **MPEP 2163.06**

adhesion, and some require the production, mounting and then the peeling of a liner to expose adhesive, incurring thereby in additional steps and costs.

Also, related to these self contained [forms,] letter sheets, the USPS (United States Postal

- ① Service) sells non-continuous [forms] pieces that don't require an envelope for mailing.

One version is sold under the name "Aerogramme", which appears to be intended mainly for letters and similar correspondence.

Another version is sold under the name "Bright Eyes Stamps", (product # 9840020) made of a card stock and, with decorative imprinting on it, which appears to be intended for greetings and similar correspondence.

- ① Both products require layers of dry adhesive to be moistened for sealing of the [form,] piece which constitutes its first disadvantage.

Another significant disadvantage resulting from this system is the inability to feed the [form]

- ① piece through any sheet fed printer and especially a desktop printer for personalized imprinting.

And yet another disadvantage is the need to enter the addressing information on the outside

- ① of the [form,] piece, as an additional step.

There is also a self seal mailer in the marketplace by Avery Dennison Corp. of Pasadena, CA, (Product # 8325) bearing a patent pending notice, which is an 8 ½ x 11" rectangular sheet with two score lines, dividing the rectangle in three panels, and having a narrow extension of about 5/8" (For a total length of 11 5/8") that carries a layer of pressure sensitive adhesive and which needs to be protected by a removable strip carrying a release substance.

This self seal mailer has the following disadvantages:

- 1) It is necessary to separately produce and then affix this strip liner, which represents additional manufacturing costs that obviously translate into a higher retail price.
- 2) It is necessary to remove and then discard this strip liner to seal the mailer.
- 3) It is necessary to install and use customizing software prior to printing of the form via a computer, due to the extension that causes the form to have a non standard size, as those pre-formatted by most word processing, desktop publishing, accounting and other computer programs.

① **REGARDING THE
TERM "PIECE", "PIECES"**

See page 1, 3rd. para. first
two lines.

MARKED COPY

Substitute Specification

— Page 3 of 31 —

Application of Luis J. Rodriguez (09/978,215)

FURTHER: An Applicant may amend the specification or drawings by "making explicit a disclosure which was implicit in the application as filed. In re Wright, 343 F.2d 761. See also Helms Prods. V. Lake Shore Mfg Co., 227 F.2d (the amendments to the specification merely render explicit what had been implicitly disclosed originally, and while new language has certainly been added, we are not prone to believe all new 'language' ipso facto as 'new matter.'")

Also, see: **MPEP 2163.06**

- 4) The additional costs associated with this software.
- 5) The need to print separately the message and the addressing information.
- 6) Due to its open side panels, the contents of the message can be easily seen by anyone with just a minimal effort. Hence, the mailer can not be used when privacy and confidentiality are desirable.
- 7) This product is only suitable for non-continuous printers.

- ① Also, at a very massive level, there are some mailing [systems] products that provide a message and means to reply, for the recipient to fill-out an enclosed form, in certain cases or
- ② a detachable [form] portion in other cases. They appear more expensive and complicated than the "two-way" self sealing [mailers] letter sheets of the present invention.

One of the most common systems of the prior art requires the use of multiple layers of paper treated with carbon on its back, which suggests a high cost of production, and in the second aspect (the reply piece), the recipient must either peel off and discard a release bearing strip or moisten a dry adhesive coating.

- ① All original claims (1-22) are product claims

② REGARDING THE TERM "PORTION"

See Figs. 24A-24N and Figs. 25A-25O. See page 5, 7th para. [o]) See page 8, 20th para.; page 9, 8th para. 'Portion' and 'section' are equivalent words.

See claims 4, 8, 14 and 20

MARKED COPY

Substitute Specification

— Page 4 of 31 —

Application of Luis J. Rodriguez (09/978,215)

FURTHER: An Applicant may amend the specification or drawings by "making explicit a disclosure which was implicit in the application as filed. In re Wright, 343 F.2d 761. See also Helms Prods. V. Lake Shore Mfg Co., 227 F.2d ("the amendments to the specification merely render explicit what had been implicitly disclosed originally, and while new language has certainly been added, we are not prone to believe all new 'language' ipso facto as 'new matter.'")

Also, see: **MPEP 2163.06**

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In accordance with the present invention, a self sealing [form] letter sheet that is suitable for feeding into any type of printer is obtained from a [sheet] flat, flexible material and comprises a body, one or more flaps, one or more layers of an adhesive substance and one or more layers of a release substance, that are arranged so when the flap(s) are bent towards the body, the adhesive substance layer(s) face the release substance layer(s), preventing a

① permanent connection, and which defines the final product, i.e. the way it is offered to the public.

Subsequently, the user can seal the letter by positioning another section of the sheet material between the adhesive and release substance layer(s). [and the positioning of another section of the sheet material between the adhesive and release substance layer(s) permit the sealing of the form.]

The following are objects and advantages of this invention:

- a) to provide a [form] letter sheet that can wrap itself;
 - b) to provide a [form] letter sheet that can as a result obviate the need of an envelope;
 - c) to provide a [form] letter sheet that can as a result obviate the need to insert a message bearing piece into an envelope;
 - d) to provide a system that permits the practical and economical production of self
- ② contained [forms,] letter sheets such as [letters,] missives, business and legal forms, accounting and legal correspondence, advertising messages, etc. for the personalized printing of both, a private message and the address and return information as well as any other information, with one single printing command, and one single trip of said [form] letter sheet across the printer;
- e) to provide a [form] letter sheet that as a result can save paper, thanks to its [form] letter plus envelope dual function;
 - f) to provide a [form] letter sheet that can be customized to suit continuous and non continuous feeding systems, making possible its use with virtually any industrial, commercial and personal printers, and the handling of long runs, short runs or individual printing

MARKED COPY

Substitute Specification

— Page 5 of 31 —

Application of Luis J. Rodriguez (09/978,215)

① THE AMENDMENT HERE, MERELY EMPHASIZES THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PRODUCTION

and

USE OF THE INVENTION, DISCLOSING EXACTLY THE SAME STRUCTURE

See FIG. 7A and 7B.

Fig. 7B shows a form that is ready to be printed.

The form was not printed as a production step. The form could be printed now, next week or whenever it is desired, and it can be anytime, anywhere by anyone who has access to a laser, Inkjet, or any sheet fed machine.

It is very clear, that production and use are two different stages that are thus defined as follows:

- a) Production is before printing
- b) Use is printing and thereafter.

This point is even clearer by looking at Figs. 15A-15B. Fig. 15B shows a whole assembly of forms, which can be printed anytime, anywhere by anybody with a web press, or for that matter, never at all be printed.

That would not change the fact that the forms were produced.

- ② **REGARDING "MISSIVE" and "LEGAL and BUSINESS FORMS:** 'Missive' is synonymous of the word "letter". It was used for enhanced communication, and to avoid pleonasm. The terms "legal" and "business" forms are equivalent to 'documents' (page 1, 2nd para.) Further, see Figs. 8, 11, 13, 16 and 25A-25D respectively depicting a legal or a business form. Some are both.

FURTHER: An Applicant may amend the specification or drawings by "making explicit a disclosure which was implicit in the application as filed. In re Wright, 343 F.2d 761. See also Helms Prods. V. Lake Shore Mfg Co., 227 F.2d ("the amendments to the specification merely render explicit what had been implicitly disclosed originally, and while new language has certainly been added, we are not prone to believe all new 'language' ipso facto as 'new matter.'")

Also, see: **MPEP 2163.06**

assignments;

g) to provide a [form] letter sheet that can increase the efficiency of personalized printing by including additional areas that can become separate personalized documents as cards, stubs, etc., after they are detached, which in combination with an enclosure, as a return envelope, for example, can maximize the results of a personalized mailing project;

h) to provide a [form] letter sheet which can further provide nesting capabilities that enable the insertion of enclosures;

i) to provide a [form] letter sheet that can satisfy a diversity of personalized mailing specifications, by working in conjunction with software customized to said specifications, creating additionally other marketing opportunities;

j) to provide a [form] letter sheet which can be readily sealed, and which does not require moistening of dry adhesive layers;

k) to provide a [form] letter sheet which can be readily sealed, and which does not require the production, affixing and subsequent removal of a release liner to protect adhesive coatings;

l) to provide a [form] letter sheet which can be readily sealed, and which does not require the use of adhesive tapes, staples or any other fastening means;

m) to provide a [form] letter sheet that can offer absolute privacy and confidentiality, by requiring the absolute and deliberate opening of it to expose its message;

n) to provide a [form] letter sheet that offers flexibility for full compliance with private and public mailing/courier system requirements;

o) to provide a self sealing [form] letter sheet which can further include attached thereto another self sealing [form] letter sheet that may serve as a reply piece;

p) to provide a self sealing [form] letter sheet that can discretionarily be processed by hand.

REFERENCE NUMERALS

202 fastener layer

204 optional and alternative lower strength fastener layer

206 fastener inhibitor layer

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1: is a plan view of layers of adhesive, lower strength adhesive and adhesive inhibitor, as respective examples of a fastener, a lower strength fastener and a fastener inhibitor.

FIG. 2A: is a perspective view of a pattern arrangement of layers on two opposite planes.

FIG. 2B: is a perspective view of the pattern arrangement of **FIG. 2A** now having another plane between them.

FIG. 3A: is a perspective view of a pattern arrangement of layers on two opposite planes.

FIG. 3B: is a perspective view of the pattern arrangement of **FIG. 3A** now having another plane between them.

FIG. 4A: is a perspective view of a pattern arrangement of layers on two opposite planes.

FIG. 4B: is a perspective view of the pattern arrangement of **FIG. 4A** now having another plane between them.

FIG. 5A: is a perspective view of a pattern arrangement of layers on two opposite planes.

FIG. 5B: is a perspective view of the pattern arrangement of **FIG. 5A** now having another plane between them.

FIG. 6A: is a perspective view of a pattern arrangement of layers on two opposite planes.

FIG. 6B: is a perspective view of the pattern arrangement of **FIG. 6A** now having another plane between them.

FIG. 7A: is a plan view of a self sealing [form,] letter sheet, illustrating the layers used.

FIG. 7B: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of **FIG. 7A**, having the flaps bent.

FIG. 7C: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of **FIG. 7B**, after printing occurred.

FIG. 7D: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of **FIG. 7C**, having the flaps unbent.

FIG. 7E: is a perspective view of the [form] letter sheet of **FIG. 7D**, being fanfolded.

FIG. 7F: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of **FIG. 7E**, fully folded and sealed.

FIG. 8: is a plan view of a self sealing [form,] letter sheet, having pre-printed indicia.

FIG. 9A: is a plan view of a self sealing [form,] letter sheet, illustrating the layers used.

FIG. 9B: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 9A, having the flaps bent.

FIG. 9C: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 9B, after printing occurred.

FIG. 9D: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 9C, having the flaps unbent.

FIG. 9E: is a perspective view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 9D, being fanfolded.

FIG. 9F: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 9E, fully folded and sealed.

FIG. 10A: is a plan view of a [form,] letter sheet, illustrating the layers used.

FIG. 10B: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 10A, having the flaps bent.

FIG. 10C: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 10B, after printing occurred.

FIG. 10D: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 10C, having the flaps unbent.

FIG. 10E: is a perspective view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 10D, being folded.

FIG. 10F: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 10E, fully folded and sealed.

FIG. 11: is a plan view of a self sealing [form,] letter sheet after printing occurred, and having the flaps unbent.

FIG. 12A: is a plan view of a self sealing [form,] letter sheet illustrating the layers used.

FIG. 12B: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 12A, having the flaps bent.

FIG. 12C: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 12B, after printing occurred.

FIG. 12D: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 12C, having the flaps unbent.

FIG. 12E: is a perspective view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 12D, being fanfolded.

FIG. 12F: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 12E, fully folded and sealed.

FIG. 13: is a plan view of a self sealing [form,] letter sheet, after printing occurred, having the flaps unbent.

FIG. 14A: is a plan view of a self sealing [form,] letter sheet, illustrating the layers used.

FIG. 14B: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 14A, having the flaps bent.

FIG. 14C: is a perspective view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 14B, after printing occurred, being fanfolded.

FIG. 14D: is a plan frontal view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 14C, fully folded and sealed.

FIG. 14E: is a plan rear view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 14D.

FIG. 15A: is a partial plan view of a web of self sealing [forms,] letter sheets, illustrating the layers used.

FIG. 15B: is a perspective view of the web of FIG. 15A, illustrating a sequence of [forms] letter sheets in assembled and folded condition.

FIG. 16: is a partial plan view of a web of self sealing [forms,] letter sheets, having preprinted indicia.

FIG. 17A: is a plan view of a self sealing [form,] letter sheet, illustrating the layers used.

FIG. 17B: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 17A, having the flaps bent and after printing occurred.

FIG. 17C: is a perspective view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 17B, being folded.

FIG. 17D: is a perspective view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 17C, in a later stage of its folding.

FIG. 17E: is a plan rear view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 17D.

FIG. 17E: is a plan front view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 17E.

FIG. 18: is a partial plan view of a web of self sealing [forms,] letter sheets, illustrating the layers used.

FIG. 19A: is a plan view of a self sealing [form,] letter sheet, illustrating the layers used.

FIG. 19B: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 19A, having the flap bent, and after printing occurred.

FIG. 19C: is a perspective rear view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 19C, being folded.

FIG. 19D: is a front plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 19C fully folded and sealed.

FIG. 20A: is a plan partial view of a web of [forms,] letter sheets, illustrating the layers used.

FIG. 20B: is a plan partial view of the web of [forms] letter sheets of FIG. 20A, having its flap bent, and after printing occurred.

FIG. 20C: is a plan view of a [form] letter sheets detached from the web of FIG. 20B.

FIG. 20D: is a perspective view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 20C, being folded.

FIG. 20E: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 20D folded and sealed.

FIG. 21: is a plan partial view of a web of [forms,] letter sheets, further illustrating traction holes.

FIG. 22A: is a plan view of a self sealing [form,] letter sheet, illustrating the layers used.

FIG. 22B: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 22A, having its flap bent, and after printing has occurred.

FIG. 22C: is a perspective view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 22B, being folded.

FIG. 22D: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 22C, folded and sealed.

FIG. 23A: is a plan view of a self sealing [form,] letter sheet, illustrating the layers used.

FIG. 23B: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 23A, having its flap bent, and after printing has occurred.

FIG. 23C: is a perspective view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 23B, being folded.

FIG. 23D: is a plan view of the [form] letter sheet of FIG. 23C, folded and sealed.

FIG. 24A: is a plan view of a dual self sealing [form,] letter sheet, containing a response self sealing [form] letter sheet section, and illustrating the layers used.

FIG. 24B: is a plan view of the dual [form] letter sheet of FIG. 24A, having the flaps bent, and after printing has occurred.

FIG. 24C: is a plan view of the dual [form] letter sheet of FIG. 24B, having its flaps unbent.

FIG. 24D: is a perspective view of the dual [form] letter sheet of FIG. 24C, being fanfolded.

FIG. 24E: is a plan view of the dual [form] letter sheet of FIG. 24D fully folded and sealed.

FIG. 24F: is a perspective view of the first step of opening the dual [form] letter sheet of FIG. 24E.

FIG. 24G: is a perspective view of the second step of opening the dual [form] letter sheet of FIG. 24F.

FIG. 24H: is a plan view of the dual [form] letter sheet of FIG. 24G, opened and unfolded.

FIG. 24I: is a perspective view of the dual [form] letter sheet of FIG. 24H, illustrating the detachment of the reply section.

FIG. 24J: is a plan view of the reply section of FIG. 24I.

FIG. 24K: is a plan view of the reply section of FIG. 24J, having the flaps unbent.

FIG. 24L: is a perspective view of the reply section of FIG. 24K, being folded.

FIG. 24M: is a plan front view of the reply section of FIG. 24L, fully folded and sealed.

FIG. 24N: is a plan rear view of the reply section of FIG. 24M, fully folded and sealed.

FIG. 25A: is a plan view of a dual self sealing [form,] letter sheet containing a response self sealing [form] letter sheet section, and illustrating the layers used.

FIG. 25B: is a plan view of the dual [form] letter sheet of FIG. 25A, having the flaps bent.

FIG. 25C: is a plan view of the dual [form] letter sheet of FIG. 25B, after printing has occurred.

FIG. 25D: is a plan view of the dual [form] letter sheet of FIG. 25C, having its flaps unbent.

FIG. 25E: is a perspective view of the dual [form] letter sheet of FIG. 25D, being fanfolded.

FIG. 25F: is a perspective view of the dual [form] letter sheet of FIG. 25E, in a later stage of fanfolding.

FIG. 25G: is a plan view of the dual [form] letter sheet of FIG. 25D fully folded and sealed.

FIG. 25H: is a plan view of the dual [form] letter sheet of FIG. 25G, opened and unfolded.

FIG. 25I: is a perspective view of the dual [form] letter sheet of FIG. 25H, illustrating the first step to produce the reply section.

FIG. 25J: is a perspective view of the dual [form] letter sheet of FIG. 25I, illustrating the second step to produce the reply section.

FIG. 25K: is a plan view of the reply section of FIG. 25J.

FIG. 25L: is a plan view of the reply section of FIG. 25K, having the flaps unbent.

FIG. 25M: is a perspective view of the reply section of FIG. 25L, being folded.

FIG. 25N: is a plan front view of the reply section of FIG. 25M, fully folded and sealed.

FIG. 25O: is a plan rear view of the reply section of FIG. 25N, fully folded and sealed.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIGS. 1 through 6B are submitted in abstract form since they apply to all embodiments and combination of embodiments of this invention. These figures illustrate the different layers and different pattern arrangements of the layers that can be implemented to achieve the different fastening effects that enable the production of the multiple embodiments of this invention.

It is to be clearly understood that these pattern arrangements merely represent some examples. Different needs may require different patterns, and accordingly, a specific pattern or combinations of patterns will result obvious within the scope of this invention.

As stated before, it is an express and explicit aspect of this application that all the pattern arrangements of **FIGS. 2A through 6B** and any combination thereof apply to all embodiments of this application, and this is the purpose of their discussion in this specification.

REFERRING TO FIG. 1: It shows in plan view a fastener layer **202**, which as an example could be a pressure sensitive adhesive; a lower strength fastener layer **204**, which as an example could be a low tack pressure sensitive adhesive; and a fastener inhibitor layer **206**, which as an example could be a release substance.

Properties of fastener layers **202** and fastener inhibitor layers **206** may vary to suit different purposes, including the purpose of removably connecting a fastener layer **202** to a fastener inhibitor layer **206**.

REFERRING TO FIG 2A: It shows in perspective view a singular fastener layer **202** on plane **201**, facing a singular fastener inhibitor layer **206** on plane **203**. In this and subsequent

① references, planes **201** and **203** represent each a face or surface.

REFERRING TO FIG 2B: It shows in perspective view the layers of FIG. 2A, now having a two sided plane **205** free of any layers positioned between planes **201** and **203**, that will connect to fastener layer **202** when in contact with it. In this and all subsequent references, each side of plane 205 represents a face or surface.

② In these FIGS. 2A and 2B as well as in all subsequent references, planes **201**, **203** and **205** can respectively correspond to 3 different plies of a folded piece of a sheet material.

① REGARDING THE TERM "EACH":

See FIG. 2A. "Each" is in the drawings, as planes **201** and **203** face each other, they could not be on the same face, i.e. "Each" plane represents a face or surface.

② REGARDING 'PLANES' and 'PLIES'

SEE CLAIMS 11, 14, 17 and 20.

See FIGS. 7a-7F, 10A-10F, 12A-12F. This amendment provides language antecedence for claims 54-61.

MARKED COPY

Substitute Specification

— Page 13 of 31 —

Application of Luis J. Rodriguez (09/978,215)

FURTHER: An Applicant may amend the specification or drawings by "making explicit a disclosure which was implicit in the application as filed. In re Wright, 343 F.2d 761. See also Helms Prods. V. Lake Shore Mfg Co., 227 F.2d ("the amendments to the specification merely render explicit what had been implicitly disclosed originally, and while new language has certainly been added, we are not prone to believe all new 'language' ipso facto as 'new matter.'")

Also, see: **MPEP 2163.06**

REFERRING TO FIG. 3A: It shows in perspective view a fastener layer 202 alternated with a fastener inhibitor layer 206 on plane 201, facing another fastener layer 202 alternated with a fastener inhibitor layer 206 on plane 203, arranged so the fastener layer of one plane face the fastener inhibitor layer of the other plane and vice versa.

REFERRING TO FIG 3B: It shows in perspective view the layers of FIG. 3A, now having a two sided plane 205 free of any layers between planes 201 and 203, that will connect to fastener layers 202 when in contact with them.

REFERRING TO FIG. 4A: It shows in perspective view a sequence of fastener layers 202 alternated with fastener inhibitor layers 206 on plane 201, facing another sequence of fastener layers 202 alternated with fastener inhibitor layers 206 on plane 203, arranged so the fastener layers of one plane face the fastener inhibitor layers of the other plane and vice versa.

REFERRING TO FIG 4B: It shows in perspective view the layers of FIG. 3A, now having a two sided plane 205 free of any layers positioned between planes 201 and 203, that will connect to fastener layers 202 when in contact with them.

REFERRING TO FIG. 5A: It shows in perspective view a sequence of fastener layers 202, alternated with fastener inhibitor layers 206, lower strength fastener layers 204, and a blank space (area with no layer) on plane 201 facing another sequence of fastener layers 202, alternated with fastener inhibitor layers 206, lower strength fastener layers 204 and blank spaces (areas with no layers) on plane 203, arranged so the fastener layers of one plane face the fastener inhibitor layers of the other and vice versa and the lower strength fastener layers of one plane face the blank space(s) of the other and vice versa. A temporary fastening is allowed by the contact of the lower strength fastener layers 204 with the blank spaces.

REFERRING TO FIG 5B: It shows in perspective view the layers of FIG. 5A, now having a two sided plane 205 free of any layers positioned between planes 201 and 203, that will connect to fastener layers 202 when in contact with them.

REFERRING TO FIG. 6A: It shows in perspective view a lower strength fastener layer 204 on plane 201; facing plane 203, with no layer.

REFERRING TO FIG 6B: It shows in perspective view the lower strength fastener layer **204** on plane **201** and no layer on plane **203**, and having between them a two sided plane **205** that will temporarily connect to the lower strength fastener layer **204**, when in contact with it.

The preceding figures are only some illustrative examples. The layers described can have any form, as for instance, curvilinear, zig-zag, etc. and a combination of any forms. Can be related to any geometrical shape, as for instance, rectangle, triangle, polygon, circle, ellipse, etc, and any combination thereof. Likewise, the layers may be in the periphery of such geometrical shape, and/or the entire area of said geometrical shape.

It is further explicitly disclosed as an aspect of this specification that the pattern arrangements illustrated by these figures and corresponding text apply to all the embodiments of this invention.

EMBODIMENT EXAMPLES: It is to be understood that the described and illustrated embodiments merely represent some examples. After applying the principles described, and in combination with the multiple pattern arrangements of layers possible, illustrated with examples of preceding **FIGS. 2A-6B**, and any combination thereof, other embodiments and combination of embodiments will result obvious within the scope of this invention. Also, the position of the adhesive layers and adhesive inhibitor layers may be in inverse order in all embodiments. Attributes of adhesive and adhesive inhibitor (e.g. release) substances may vary to suit different fastening needs, as for instance: the need to temporarily connect a coating of adhesive to a coating of adhesive inhibitor.

Closely related embodiment figures have the same number but different alphabetic suffixes.

The terms used in the description of embodiments are intended to be exemplifying, and by no means to be restrictively construed, as obvious equivalents may be applied and substitutions may take place within the scope of the invention.

For instance: "score" or "score lines" are illustrative examples of any means of weakening a sheet material for subsequent folding; "die cut" is an illustrative example of cutting a sheet material into a shape or to remove a shape out of a sheet material; "perforation lines" is an illustrative example of any means of weakening a sheet material for subsequent detachment of a portion thereof. Score or folding lines may also be substituted by printed guides, or

may simply be omitted.

Also, a fastener is exemplified by an adhesive and a fastener inhibitor is exemplified by an adhesive inhibitor (e.g. a release substance)

"Sheet material" is any flexible flat material, and includes but is not limited to: paper, cardboard, film, acetate, and the like. A particular mention is made of a product known in the market as "Tyvek™" by Dupont Corp. of Wilmington, DE; and of another product being commercialized in conventional paper sizes by Xerox Corp. of Rochester, NY, under the

- ① commercial name ["Never Tear Paper™"] "Never Tear Paper™" that may be used whenever
① suitable or [desirable"] desirable.

Indicia shown in all embodiments is only for purposes of illustration. It is to be understood

- ① that any type of indicia may be [inscripted] inscribed on the forms, within the scope of the invention.

Also, whether it is shown or not, all embodiments may incorporate a) detachment means (e.g. perforation lines) to enable the instant production of separate pieces; b) openings that enable the creation of windows, that may have or may not have a translucent cover; c) traction holes, to enable the feeding of the forms through traction printers; and any other features established in the industry.

1st EMBODIMENT EXAMPLE: [FIG. 7A through FIG. 7F inclusive illustrate in a progressive manner the application of this invention to build a three panel self sealing

- ② form,] FIGS. 7A and 7B progressively illustrate the application of this invention to produce a self sealing letter sheet suitable for feeding into laser printers and other non continuous printers. This and other examples are for illustration purposes as their purpose is to show
③ preferred embodiments. Some shown elements, like score lines may be desirable in certain
③ instances but are not an indispensable aspect of the invention, as indicated above.

REFERRING TO FIG. 7A: A previously die or otherwise cut sheet 207 has score lines 208, 210 and 212 separating the body 214 from flaps 216, 218 and 220, respectively. Adhesive layers 202, [are] were applied to the flaps. An adhesive inhibitor layer 206 [is] was applied to the body. Score lines 222 and 224 [are] were applied to the body.

MARKED COPY

Substitute Specification

— Page 16 of 31 —

Application of Luis J. Rodriguez (09/978,215)

- ① These are obvious grammar corrections

② REGARDING "TO PRODUCE"

'To build' was replaced by 'To produce', which is a synonymous word.

③ REGARDING THE "SCORE LINES", AND NOT BEING INDISPENSABLE

See page 12, 4th para.,
2 last lines

SEE CLAIMS 1-22

FURTHER: An Applicant may amend the specification or drawings by "making explicit a disclosure which was implicit in the application as filed. In re Wright, 343 F.2d 761. See also Helms Prods. V. Lake Shore Mfg Co., 227 F.2d ("the amendments to the specification merely render explicit what had been implicitly disclosed originally, and while new language has certainly been added, we are not prone to believe all new 'language' ipso facto as 'new matter.'")

Also, see: **MPEP 2163.06**

REFERRING TO FIG. 7B: Flaps are bent towards the body, connecting temporarily to it,

① [enabling the form to be fed through a printer.] defining the finished product, as it is offered for sale to the public. The finished self sealing letter sheet is now ready to be fed through a printer by the user.

FIGS. 7C through 7F further demonstrate the utilization of this product by the user.

FIG. 7C shows the self sealing letter sheet after it was printed. FIG. 7D shows the self sealing letter sheet after flaps were unfolded. FIG. 7E shows the self sealing letter sheet being folded, so the private message will be covered and the addressing information will be readily visible. FIG. 7F shows the self sealing letter sheet fully sealed and displaying the addressing information.

①

[REFERRING TO FIG. 7C: Form is printed so a private message is on first two panels, while addressing information is printed on third panel.

REFERRING TO FIG. 7D: Flaps are unfolded.

REFERRING TO FIG. 7E: Body is being folded in its final pattern, so private message is covered and addressing information is readily visible.

REFERRING TO FIG. 7F: Flaps are bent attaching to third panel, to seal the form.]

An alternate of this embodiment is illustrated with **FIG. 8**, where the [form] letter sheet has pre-printed a blank check indicia, has perforation lines **226** and **228**, for the subsequent detachment of the check and other sections, after personalized imprinting takes place.

Another alternate [three panel self contained form] letter sheet (not shown) of this 1st and any subsequent embodiment is obtained by omitting the adhesive inhibitor layer **206** and using a dry adhesive substance as the adhesive layers **202**, that is activated by its moistening. For the temporary connection of the flaps to the body, a low tack adhesive **204** is used, interacting with a facing space that has no layer of any substance.

2nd EMBODIMENT EXAMPLE: [FIG. 9A through FIG. 9F inclusive illustrate in a progressive manner the application of this invention to build a three panel self sealing form,] FIGS. 9A and 9B progressively illustrate the application of this invention to produce

① **THE AMENDMENT HERE, MERELY EMPHASIZES THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PRODUCTION**

and

USE OF THE INVENTION, DISCLOSING EXACTLY THE SAME STRUCTURE

SEE CLAIMS 1-22

See FIG. 7A and 7B.

Fig. 7B shows a form that was produced and is ready to be printed. See descriptive text on page 12, last para. And page 13, first two paragraphs.

MARKED COPY

Substitute Specification

— Page 17 of 31 —

Application of Luis J. Rodriguez (09/978,215)

FURTHER: An Applicant may amend the specification or drawings by "making explicit a disclosure which was implicit in the application as filed. In re Wright, 343 F.2d 761. See also Helms Prods. V. Lake Shore Mfg Co., 227 F.2d ("the amendments to the specification merely render explicit what had been implicitly disclosed originally, and while new language has certainly been added, we are not prone to believe all new 'language' ipso facto as 'new matter.'")

Also, see: **MPEP 2163.06**

a self sealing letter sheet suitable for feeding into laser printers and other non continuous printers.

REFERRING TO FIG. 9A: A previously die or otherwise cut sheet 207 has score lines 208, 210 and 212 separating the body 214 from flaps 216, 218 and 220, respectively. Adhesive layers 202, [are] were applied to the flaps. An adhesive inhibitor layer 206 [is] was applied to the body. Score lines 222 and 224 [are] were applied to the body.

REFERRING TO FIG. 9B: Flaps [are] were bent towards the body, connecting temporarily

① **THE AMENDMENT HERE,
MERELY EMPHASIZES THE
DIFFERENCES BETWEEN
PRODUCTION**

and

**USE OF THE INVENTION,
DISCLOSING EXACTLY THE
SAME STRUCTURE**

SEE CLAIMS 1-22

See FIG. 9A and 9B.

Fig. 9B shows a form that was produced and is ready to be printed. See descriptive text on page 13, 8th and 9th paragraphs.

① to it, [enabling the form to be fed through a printer.] defining the finished product, as it is offered for sale. The finished self sealing letter sheet is now ready to be fed through a printer by the user.

FIGS. 9C through 9F further demonstrate the utilization of this product by the user.

FIG. 9C shows the self sealing letter sheet after it was printed. FIG. 9D shows the self sealing letter sheet after flaps were unfolded. FIG. 9E shows the self sealing letter sheet being folded, so the private message will be covered and the addressing information will be

① readily visible. FIG. 9F shows the self sealing letter sheet fully sealed and displaying the addressing information.

[REFERRING TO FIG. 9C: Form is printed so a private message is on first two panels, while addressing information is printed on third panel.

REFERRING TO FIG. 9D: Flaps are unfolded.

REFERRING TO FIG. 9E: Body is being folded in its final pattern, so private message is covered and addressing information is readily visible.

REFERRING TO FIG. 9F: Flaps are bent attaching to third panel, to seal the form.]

3rd EMBODIMENT EXAMPLE: [FIG. 10A through FIG. 10F inclusive illustrate in a progressive manner the application of this invention to build a two panel self sealing form,]

FIGS. 10A and 10B progressively illustrate the application of this invention to produce a self sealing letter sheet suitable for feeding into laser printers and other non continuous printers.

MARKED COPY

Substitute Specification

— Page 18 of 31 —

Application of Luis J. Rodriguez (09/978,215)

FURTHER: An Applicant may amend the specification or drawings by "making explicit a disclosure which was implicit in the application as filed. In re Wright, 343 F.2d 761. See also Helms Prods. V. Lake Shore Mfg Co., 227 F.2d ("the amendments to the specification merely render explicit what had been implicitly disclosed originally, and while new language has certainly been added, we are not prone to believe all new 'language' ipso facto as 'new matter.'")

Also, see: MPEP 2163.06

REFERRING TO FIG. 10A: A previously die or otherwise cut sheet 207 has score lines 208, 210 and 212 separating the body 214 from flaps 216, 218 and 220 respectively. Adhesive layers 202, [are] were applied to the flaps. An adhesive inhibitor layer 206 [is] was applied to the body. Score line 222 [is] was applied to the body. Windows 230 and 232 were obtained from original cut.

REFERRING TO FIG. 10B: Flaps [are] were bent towards the body, connecting temporarily to it, [enabling the form to be fed through a printer.] defining the finished product. The self sealing letter sheet is now ready to be fed through a printer by the user.

FIGS. 10C through 10F further demonstrate the utilization of this product by the user.

FIG. 10C shows the self sealing letter sheet after it was printed. FIG. 10D shows the self sealing letter sheet after flaps were unfolded. FIG. 10E shows the self sealing letter sheet being folded, so the private message will be covered and the addressing information will be readily visible through the windows. FIG. 10F shows the self sealing letter sheet fully sealed and displaying the addressing information.

[REFERRING TO FIG. 10C: Form is printed so addressing information appears on top, followed by a private message.

REFERRING TO FIG. 10D: Flaps are unfolded.

REFERRING TO FIG. 10E: Body is being folded, so addressing information will appear through the windows.

REFERRING TO FIG. 10F: Flaps are bent to seal the form.]

An alternate of this embodiment is illustrated with **FIG. 11**, where the [form] letter sheet is used to produce a personalized official message.

Another alternate [three panel self contained form] letter sheet (not shown) of this 3rd embodiment is obtained by omitting the adhesive inhibitor layer 206 and using a dry adhesive substance as the adhesive layers 202, that is activated by its moistening. For the temporary connection of the flaps to the body, a low tack adhesive 204 is used, interacting with a facing space that has no layer of any substance.

① THE AMENDMENT HERE, MERELY EMPHASIZES THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PRODUCTION and

USE OF THE INVENTION, DISCLOSING EXACTLY THE SAME STRUCTURE

SEE CLAIMS 1-22

See FIG. 10A and 10B.

Fig. 10B shows a form that was produced and is ready to be printed. See descriptive text on page 14, 4th and 5th paragraphs.

MARKED COPY

Substitute Specification

— Page 19 of 31 —

Application of Luis J. Rodriguez (09/978,215)

FURTHER: An Applicant may amend the specification or drawings by "making explicit a disclosure which was implicit in the application as filed. In re Wright, 343 F.2d 761. See also Helms Prods. V. Lake Shore Mfg Co., 227 F.2d ("the amendments to the specification merely render explicit what had been implicitly disclosed originally, and while new language has certainly been added, we are not prone to believe all new 'language' ipso facto as 'new matter.'")

Also, see: **MPEP 2163.06**

4th EMBODIMENT EXAMPLE: [FIG. 12A through FIG. 12F inclusive illustrate in a progressive manner the application of this invention to build a two panel self sealing form,] FIGS. 12A and 12B progressively illustrate the application of this invention to produce a self sealing letter suitable for feeding into laser printers and other non continuous printers.

REFERRING TO FIG. 12A: A previously die or otherwise cut sheet 207 has score lines 208, 210 and 212 separating the body 214 from flaps 216, 218 and 220 respectively. Adhesive layers 202, [are] were applied to the flaps. An adhesive inhibitor layer 206 [is] was applied to the body. Score line 222 [is] was applied to the body.

REFERRING TO FIG. 12B: Flaps [are] were bent towards the body, connecting temporarily

① to it, [enabling the form to be fed through a printer.] defining the finished product. The self sealing letter sheet is now ready to be fed through a printer by the user.

FIGS. 12C through 12F further demonstrate the utilization of this product by the user.

FIG. 12C shows the self sealing letter sheet after it was printed. FIG. 12D shows the self sealing letter sheet after flaps were unfolded. FIG. 12E shows the self sealing letter sheet being folded. FIG. 12F shows the self sealing letter sheet fully sealed and displaying the

① addressing information.

[REFERRING TO FIG. 12C: Form is printed so addressing information appears on the top flap, and the private message appears on the body.

REFERRING TO FIG. 12D: Flaps are unfolded.

REFERRING TO FIG. 12E: Body is being folded.

REFERRING TO FIG. 12F: Flaps are bent to seal the form.]

[Another] An alternate of this embodiment is illustrated with FIG. 13, where the [form] letter sheet is used to produce a personalized tax form, having perforation lines 226, 227 and 228 to produce detachable sections.

Another alternate [three panel self contained form] letter sheet (not shown) of this 4th embodiment is obtained by omitting the adhesive inhibitor layer 206 and using a dry

① **THE AMENDMENT HERE,
MERELY EMPHASIZES THE
DIFFERENCES BETWEEN
PRODUCTION
and**

**USE OF THE INVENTION,
DISCLOSING EXACTLY THE
SAME STRUCTURE**

SEE CLAIMS 1-22

See FIG. 12A and 12B.

Fig. 12B shows a form that was produced and is ready to be printed. See descriptive text on pages 14, last para. And page 15, first two paragraphs.

MARKED COPY

Substitute Specification

— Page 20 of 31 —

Application of Luis J. Rodriguez (09/978,215)

FURTHER: An Applicant may amend the specification or drawings by "making explicit a disclosure which was implicit in the application as filed. In re Wright, 343 F.2d 761. See also Helms Prods. V. Lake Shore Mfg Co., 227 F.2d ("the amendments to the specification merely render explicit what had been implicitly disclosed originally, and while new language has certainly been added, we are not prone to believe all new 'language' ipso facto as 'new matter.'")

Also, see: **MPEP 2163.06**

adhesive substance as the adhesive layers 202, that is activated by its moistening. For the temporary connection of the flaps to the body, a low tack adhesive 204 is used, interacting with a facing space that has no layer of any substance.

5th EMBODIMENT EXAMPLE: [FIG. 14A through FIG. 14E inclusive illustrate in a progressive manner the application of this invention to build a four panel self sealing form,] FIGS. 14A and 14B progressively illustrate the application of this invention to produce a self sealing letter sheet suitable for feeding into laser printers and other non continuous printers.

REFERRING TO FIG. 14A: A previously die or otherwise cut sheet 207 has score lines 208 and 210 separating the body 214 from flaps 216, and 218 respectively. Adhesive layers 202, [are] were applied to the flaps. Adhesive inhibitor layers 206 [are] were applied to the body. Score lines 222, 223 and 224 [are] were applied to the body. Windows 230 and 232 were obtained from original cut.

REFERRING TO FIG. 14B: Flaps [are] were bent towards the body, connecting temporarily to it, [enabling the form to be fed through a printer. Form was printed and addressing information appears on top, followed by a private message] defining the finished product, as it was sold. User already printed the letter.

FIGS. 14C through 14E demonstrate subsequent steps taken by the user. FIG. 14C shows the self sealing letter sheet being folded. FIG. 14D shows the self sealing letter sheet fully sealed and displaying the addressing information, in a front view. FIG. 14E shows the back view of the self sealing letter sheet fully sealed.

[REFERRING TO FIG. 14C: Flaps are unbent. Body is being fan-folded, so addressing information will appear through the windows.

REFERRING TO FIG. 14D: Flaps are bent to seal the form. (front view)

REFERRING TO FIG. 14E: sealed form is shown in rear view.]

An alternate [four panel self contained form] letter sheet (not shown) of this 5th

1 THE AMENDMENT HERE, MERELY EMPHASIZES THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PRODUCTION

and

USE OF THE INVENTION, DISCLOSING EXACTLY THE SAME STRUCTURE

SEE CLAIMS 1-22

See FIG. 14A and 14B.
Fig. 14B shows a form that was produced and was already printed. See descriptive text on page 15, 3rd to the last para.

FURTHER: An Applicant may amend the specification or drawings by "making explicit a disclosure which was implicit in the application as filed. In re Wright, 343 F.2d 761. See also Helms Prods. V. Lake Shore Mfg Co., 227 F.2d ("the amendments to the specification merely render explicit what had been implicitly disclosed originally, and while new language has certainly been added, we are not prone to believe all new 'language' ipso facto as 'new matter.'")

Also, see: **MPEP 2163.06**

embodiment is obtained by omitting the adhesive inhibitor layers 206 and using a dry adhesive substance as the adhesive layers 202, that is activated by its moistening, prior to permanently sealing the [form] letter sheet. For the temporary connection of the flaps to the body, a low tack adhesive 204 is used, interacting with a facing space that has no layer of any substance.

6th EMBODIMENT EXAMPLE: FIG. 15A and FIG. 15B illustrate a variation of the fifth embodiment example, to produce a continuous [form,] letter sheet, suitable for web presses and any other friction continuous printers.

REFERRING TO FIG. 15A: A web of a sheet material 209 having detachment lines 234 and 236, defining the limits of an individual [form] letter sheet 207 having all the parts of [form] letter sheet of FIG. 13A.

REFERRING TO FIG. 15B: An assembly of [forms] letter sheets is shown.

A variation of this [form] letter sheet is obtained by adding traction holes 211 to the web 209, as shown in FIG. 16.

7th EMBODIMENT EXAMPLE: [FIG. 17A through FIG. 17F inclusive illustrate in a progressive manner the application of this invention to build a four panel self sealing form,] FIGS. 17A and 17B progressively illustrate the application of this invention to produce a self sealing letter sheet suitable for feeding into laser printers and other non continuous printers.

REFERRING TO FIG. 17A: A previously die or otherwise cut sheet 207 has score lines 208 and 210 separating the body 214 from flaps 216, and 218 respectively. Adhesive layers 202, [are] were applied to the flaps. Adhesive inhibitor layers 206 [are] were applied to the body. Score lines 222, 223 and 224 [are] were applied to the body. Windows 230 and 232 were obtained on second panel from original cut.

REFERRING TO FIG. 17B: Flaps [are] were bent towards the body, connecting temporarily to it, [enabling the form to be fed through a printer. Form was printed and addressing

MARKED COPY

Substitute Specification

— Page 22 of 31 —

Application of Luis J. Rodriguez (09/978,215)

FURTHER: An Applicant may amend the specification or drawings by "making explicit a disclosure which was implicit in the application as filed. In re Wright, 343 F.2d 761. See also Helms Prods. V. Lake Shore Mfg Co., 227 F.2d ("the amendments to the specification merely render explicit what had been implicitly disclosed originally, and while new language has certainly been added, we are not prone to believe all new 'language' ipso facto as 'new matter.'")

Also, see: **MPEP 2163.06**

- information appears on first panel. Private message is on third and fourth panel.] defining
① the finished product, as it was sold. User already printed the letter sheet.
FIGS. 17C through 17F demonstrate subsequent steps taken by the user.
FIG. 17C shows the self sealing letter sheet being folded. FIG. 17D shows a later stage of
the folding of the letter sheet. FIG. 17E shows the back view of the self sealing letter sheet
fully sealed. FIG. 17F shows the front of the letter sheet fully sealed, and having addressing
① information readily visible.

[REFERRING TO FIG. 17C: Flaps are unbent. Body is being folded, so addressing information will appear through the windows.

REFERRING TO FIG. 17D: A later stage of fan folding is shown.

REFERRING TO FIG. 17E: Flaps are bent to seal the form (rear view.)

REFERRING TO FIG. 17F: Flaps are bent to seal the form letter (front view.)]

An alternate [four panel self contained form] letter sheet (not shown) of this 7th embodiment is obtained by omitting the adhesive inhibitor layers 206 and using a dry adhesive substance as the adhesive layers 202, that is activated by its moistening, prior to permanently sealing the [form.] letter sheet. For the temporary connection of the flaps to the body, a low tack adhesive 204 is used, interacting with a facing space that has no layer of any substance.

8th EMBODIMENT EXAMPLE: FIG. 18 is a web of a sheet material 209 having detachment lines 234 and 236, defining the limits of an individual [form] letter sheet 207 having all the parts of [form] letter sheet of FIG. 16A. With traction holes 211, the [forms] letter sheets are suitable for feeding into a traction printer. With, or without the traction holes, the [form] letter sheet is suitable for feeding into a friction printer.

In certain instances, as in the following 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th embodiment examples, privacy is not a critical aspect in a mailing project. Yet, it is desirable that the pieces have a certain size and or shape, for better handling and to conform to postal guidelines or regulations.

① **THE AMENDMENT HERE,
MERELY EMPHASIZES THE
DIFFERENCES BETWEEN
PRODUCTION**

and

**USE OF THE INVENTION,
DISCLOSING EXACTLY THE
SAME STRUCTURE**

SEE CLAIMS 1-22

See FIG. 17A and 17B.

Fig. 17B shows a form that was produced and was already printed. See descriptive text on page 16, 6th and 7th paragraphs.

MARKED COPY

Substitute Specification

— Page 23 of 31 —

Application of Luis J. Rodriguez (09/978,215)

FURTHER: An Applicant may amend the specification or drawings by "making explicit a disclosure which was implicit in the application as filed. In re Wright, 343 F.2d 761. See also Helms Prods. V. Lake Shore Mfg Co., 227 F.2d ("the amendments to the specification merely render explicit what had been implicitly disclosed originally, and while new language has certainly been added, we are not prone to believe all new 'language' ipso facto as 'new matter.'")

Also, see: **MPEP 2163.06**

Thus, these embodiment examples describe a [form] letter sheet that while offering limited privacy, obviates the need of an envelope; and can be readily sealed after entering indicia, in accordance to postal and courier established practices. The [form] letter sheet also makes unnecessary the use of removable release strips and the use of dry adhesive coatings that need to be moistened for sealing.

Further customized advantages may be obtained by the use of "windows", perforations that enable the instant production of detachable pieces, etc.

9th EMBODIMENT EXAMPLE: [FIG. 19A through FIG. 19D inclusive illustrate in a progressive manner the application of this invention to build a four panel self sealing form,] FIGS. 19A and 19B progressively illustrate the application of this invention to produce a self sealing letter sheet suitable for feeding into laser printers and other non continuous printers.

REFERRING TO FIG. 19A: A sheet 207 has score line 208 separating the body 214 from flap 216. An adhesive layer 202, [is] was applied to the flap. An adhesive inhibitor layer 206 [is] was applied to the body. Score line 222 [is] was applied to the body.

REFERRING TO FIG. 19B: Flap [is] was bent towards the body, connecting temporarily to it, [enabling the form to be fed through a printer. Form was printed] defining the finished product, as it was sold. User already printed the letter.

FIGS. 19C through 19D demonstrate subsequent steps taken by the user.

FIG. 19C shows in rear view the self sealing letter sheet being folded. FIG. 19D shows in front view the self sealing letter sheet fully sealed.

[REFERRING TO FIG. 19C: Flap was unbent. Body is being folded. (Back view)

REFERRING TO FIG. 19D: (Front view) Form is sealed.]

An alternate [two panel self contained form] letter sheet (not shown) of this 9th embodiment is obtained by omitting the adhesive inhibitor layers 206 and using a dry adhesive substance as the adhesive layers 202, that is activated by its moistening, prior to

① THE AMENDMENT HERE, MERELY EMPHASIZES THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PRODUCTION

and

USE OF THE INVENTION, DISCLOSING EXACTLY THE SAME STRUCTURE

SEE CLAIMS 1-22

See FIG. 19A and 19B.

Fig. 19B shows a form that was produced and was already printed. See descriptive text on page 17, 7th and 8th paragraphs.

①
↓
①

MARKED COPY

Substitute Specification

— Page 24 of 31 —

Application of Luis J. Rodriguez (09/978,215)

FURTHER: An Applicant may amend the specification or drawings by "making explicit a disclosure which was implicit in the application as filed. In re Wright, 343 F.2d 761. See also Helms Prods. V. Lake Shore Mfg Co., 227 F.2d ("the amendments to the specification merely render explicit what had been implicitly disclosed originally, and while new language has certainly been added, we are not prone to believe all new 'language' ipso facto as 'new matter.'")

Also, see: **MPEP 2163.06**

permanently sealing the [form.] letter sheet. For the temporary connection of the flaps to the body, a low tack adhesive 204 is used, interacting with a facing space that has no layer of any substance.

10th EMBODIMENT EXAMPLE: [FIG. 20A thorough FIG. 20E inclusive illustrate in a progressive manner the application of this invention to build a two panel self sealing form,] FIGS. 20A and 20B progressively illustrate the application of this invention to produce a self sealing letter sheet suitable for feeding into continuous printers.

REFERRING TO FIG. 20A: A web 209 has detachment lines 234 and 236, that define individual form 207. Score line 208 separates the body 214 from flap 216. An adhesive layer 202, [is] was applied to the flap. An adhesive inhibitor layer 206 [is] was applied to the body. Score/perforation line 222 [is] was applied to the body. Perforated (detachment) lines 213 [are] were applied.

REFERRING TO FIG. 20B: Flap [is] was bent towards the body, connecting temporarily to

① it, [enabling the form to be fed through a printer. Form was printed.] defining the finished product, as it is sold. User already printed the letters.

FIGS. 20C through 20D demonstrate subsequent steps taken by the user.

FIG. 20C shows an individual letter sheet detached from the web. FIG. 20D shows the flap

① unfolded and letter sheet being sealed. FIG. 20E shows the letter sheet fully sealed.

[REFERRING TO FIG. 20C: Individual form was detached from web.

REFERRING TO FIG. 20D: Flap was unbent. Form is being folded for sealing.

REFERRING TO FIG. 20E: Form is sealed.]

An alternate [two panel self contained form] letter sheet (not shown) of this 10th embodiment is obtained by omitting the adhesive inhibitor layers 206 and using a dry adhesive substance as the adhesive layers 202, that is activated by its moistening, prior to permanently sealing the [form] letter sheet. For the temporary connection of the flaps to the body, a low tack adhesive 204 is used, interacting with a facing space that has no

① **THE AMENDMENT HERE,
MERELY EMPHASIZES THE
DIFFERENCES BETWEEN
PRODUCTION**

and

**USE OF THE INVENTION,
DISCLOSING EXACTLY THE
SAME STRUCTURE**

SEE CLAIMS 1-22

See FIG. 20A and 20B.

Fig. 20B shows a form that was produced and was already printed. See descriptive text on page 18, 3rd and 4th paragraphs.

MARKED COPY

Substitute Specification

— Page 25 of 31 —

Application of Luis J. Rodriguez (09/978,215)

FURTHER: An Applicant may amend the specification or drawings by "making explicit a disclosure which was implicit in the application as filed. In re Wright, 343 F.2d 761. See also Helms Prods. V. Lake Shore Mfg Co., 227 F.2d ("the amendments to the specification merely render explicit what had been implicitly disclosed originally, and while new language has certainly been added, we are not prone to believe all new 'language' ipso facto as 'new matter.'")

Also, see: **MPEP 2163.06**

layer of any substance.

A variation of the 10th embodiment [mailer,] letter sheet with all its parts and ramifications, is illustrated by FIG. 21 further incorporating holes 211 for use with a tractor printer.

11th EMBODIMENT EXAMPLE: [FIG. 22A thorough FIG. 22D inclusive illustrate in a progressive manner the application of this invention to build a three panel self sealing form,] FIGS. 22A and 22B progressively illustrate the application of this invention to produce a self sealing letter sheet suitable for feeding into laser printers and other non continuous printers.

REFERRING TO FIG. 22A: A sheet 207 has score line 208 separating the body 214 from flap 216. An adhesive layer 202, [is] was applied to the flap. An adhesive inhibitor layer 206 [is] was applied to the body. Score lines 222 and 224 [are] were applied to the body.

REFERRING TO FIG. 22B: Flap [is] was bent towards the body, connecting temporarily to it,

① [enabling the form to be fed through a printer. Form was printed] defining the finished product, as it was sold. User already printed the letter.

FIGS. 22C through 22D demonstrate subsequent steps taken by the user.

FIG. 22C shows the self sealing letter sheet being folded. FIG. 22D shows the self sealing

① letter sheet fully sealed.

[REFERRING TO FIG. 22C: Flap was unbent. Body is being folded.

REFERRING TO FIG. 22D: (Back view) Form is sealed.]

An alternate [three panel self contained form] letter sheet (not shown) of this 11th embodiment is obtained by omitting the adhesive inhibitor layers 206 and using a dry adhesive substance as the adhesive layers 202, that is activated by its moistening, prior to permanently sealing the [form.] letter sheet. For the temporary connection of the flaps to the body, a low tack adhesive 204 is used, interacting with a facing space that has no layer of any substance.

12th EMBODIMENT EXAMPLE: [FIG. 23A thorough FIG. 23D inclusive illustrate in a progressive manner the application of this invention to build a three panel self sealing form,]

① **THE AMENDMENT HERE,
MERELY EMPHASIZES THE
DIFFERENCES BETWEEN
PRODUCTION**

and

**USE OF THE INVENTION,
DISCLOSING EXACTLY THE
SAME STRUCTURE**

SEE CLAIMS 1-22

See FIG. 22A and 22B.

Fig. 22B shows a form that was produced and was already printed. See descriptive text on page 18, last two paragraphs.

MARKED COPY

Substitute Specification

— Page 26 of 31 —

Application of Luis J. Rodriguez (09/978,215)

FURTHER: An Applicant may amend the specification or drawings by "making explicit a disclosure which was implicit in the application as filed. In re Wright, 343 F.2d 761. See also Helms Prods. V. Lake Shore Mfg Co., 227 F.2d ("the amendments to the specification merely render explicit what had been implicitly disclosed originally, and while new language has certainly been added, we are not prone to believe all new 'language' ipso facto as 'new matter.'")

Also, see: **MPEP 2163.06**

FIGS. 23A and 23B progressively illustrate the application of this invention to produce a self sealing letter sheet suitable for feeding into laser printers and other non continuous printers.

REFERRING TO FIG. 23A: A sheet 207 has score line 208 separating the body 214 from flap 216. An adhesive layer 202, [is] was applied to the flap. An adhesive inhibitor layer 206 [is] was applied to the body. Score lines 222 and 224 [are] were applied to the body. Window 230 was cut out.

REFERRING TO FIG. 23B: Flap [is] was bent towards the body, connecting temporarily to

① it, [enabling the form to be fed through a printer. Form was printed] defining the finished product, as it was sold. User already printed the letter.

FIGS. 23C through 23D demonstrate subsequent steps taken by the user.

FIG. 22C shows the self sealing letter sheet being folded. FIG. 23D shows the self sealing

① letter sheet fully sealed, and displaying the addressing information.

[REFERRING TO FIG. 23C: Flap was unbent. Body is being folded.

REFERRING TO FIG. 23D: Form is sealed. Addressing information appears thorough the window.]

An alternate [three panel self contained form] letter sheet (not shown) of this 12th embodiment is obtained by omitting the adhesive inhibitor layers 206 and using a dry adhesive substance as the adhesive layers 202, that is activated by its moistening, prior to permanently sealing the [form.] letter sheet. For the temporary connection of the flaps to the body, a low tack adhesive 204 is used, interacting with a facing space that has no layer of any substance.

OTHER EMBODIMENTS

There are mailing assignments that require a reply from the recipient of the piece. In these cases, it may be desirable to include means for instant reply, so this convenience maximizes the effectiveness of the assignment. A reply card, which may be detached from the original piece may suffice in certain cases. In others where privacy is desirable, this

① **THE AMENDMENT HERE, MERELY EMPHASIZES THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PRODUCTION**

and

USE OF THE INVENTION, DISCLOSING EXACTLY THE SAME STRUCTURE

SEE CLAIMS 1-22

See FIG. 23A and 23B.

Fig. 23B shows a form that was produced and was already printed. See descriptive text on page 19, 4th and 5th paragraphs.

MARKED COPY

Substitute Specification

— Page 27 of 31 —

Application of Luis J. Rodriguez (09/978,215)

FURTHER: An Applicant may amend the specification or drawings by "making explicit a disclosure which was implicit in the application as filed. In re Wright, 343 F.2d 761. See also Helms Prods. V. Lake Shore Mfg Co., 227 F.2d ("the amendments to the specification merely render explicit what had been implicitly disclosed originally, and while new language has certainly been added, we are not prone to believe all new 'language' ipso facto as 'new matter.'")

Also, see: **MPEP 2163.06**

card is not viable.

A solution is provided by the following 13th and 14th embodiment examples, which disclose "two-way" self sealing [mailers,] letter sheets, built out of one blank of a [sheet]

- ① flat, flexible material, and readily sealable, obviating thereby the use of two envelopes. In other words, a [mailer] letter sheet is sent to the recipient, who opens it, detaches a portion of it, fills it out, seals it as another [mailer] letter and sends it back to original remittent.

13th EMBODIMENT EXAMPLE: [FIG. 24A thorough FIG. 24N inclusive] FIGS. 24A and 24B illustrate in a progressive manner the application of this invention to build a two-way self sealing [mailer.] letter sheet.

REFERRING TO FIG. 24A: A sheet material blank 207 has a first [mailer] letter section 238 with main flaps 216, 218 and 220, and adhesive layers 202 and a release layer 206. First [mailer is] letter section is to be separated from second [mailer] letter section 244 by detachment line 234. Second [mailer] letter section 244 has flaps 246, 248 and 250; and adhesive layers 202 and release layers 206. Inner score lines 252 and 254 are applied. Outer score lines 256 and 258 are applied. Perforation lines 260 and 262 are applied across entire two-way [mailer.] letter sheet.

REFERRING TO FIG. 24B: All flaps were bent. (Flaps of second [mailer] letter section 244 were bent about inner score lines.) Adhesive layers connected in a removable fashion to release layers. Two-way [mailer] letter sheet is shown after it was printed by the user [was printed, containing] bearing a message on the first [mailer] letter section and a reply form for that message on the second [mailer.] letter section. Addressing information appears on the back side of flap 216.

FIGS. 24C through 24N demonstrate subsequent steps taken by the user.

FIG. 24C shows the flaps of the first letter section unfolded. FIG. 24D shows the letter sheet being fanfolded for sealing. FIG. 24E shows the letter sealed, further displaying the addressing information. FIG. 24F shows the tearing along perforated lines of one side as

- ② the first step of opening the letter sheet. FIG. 24G shows the tearing along perforated lines

① THE AMENDMENT HERE, MERELY EMPHASIZES THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PRODUCTION

and

USE OF THE INVENTION, DISCLOSING EXACTLY THE SAME STRUCTURE

SEE CLAIMS 1-22

See FIG. 24A and 24B.

Fig. 24B shows a form that was produced and was already printed. See descriptive text on page 20, 3rd and 4th paragraphs.

MARKED COPY

Substitute Specification

— Page 28 of 31 —

Application of Luis J. Rodriguez (09/978,215)

- ① REGARDING "FLAT, FLEXIBLE MATERIAL": See page 12, 6th para., first line.
Also, see all drawings.

FURTHER: An Applicant may amend the specification or drawings by "making explicit a disclosure which was implicit in the application as filed. In re Wright, 343 F.2d 761. See also Helms Prods. V. Lake Shore Mfg Co., 227 F.2d ("the amendments to the specification merely render explicit what had been implicitly disclosed originally, and while new language has certainly been added, we are not prone to believe all new 'language' ipso facto as 'new matter.'")

Also, see: MPEP 2163.06

- ① of the other side as the second step of opening the letter sheet. FIG. 24H shows the letter opened and unfolded by recipient, and having its flaps removed. FIG. 24I shows the second (reply) letter section obtained by removing remnant of first letter section. FIG. 24J shows the second letter section fully detached. FIG. 24K shows the side flaps of the second letter section unbent and the second letter section filled out. FIG. 24L shows the second letter section being folded. FIG. 24M shows the flaps folded by outer score lines, and the second letter section sealed in front view, further displaying addressing indicia. FIG. 24N shows the sealed second letter section in rear view.

[REFERRING TO FIG. 24C: Flaps of first mailer are unfolded.

REFERRING TO FIG. 24D: Mailer is being fan-folded for sealing.

REFERRING TO FIG. 24E: Mailer is sealed.

REFERRING TO FIG. 24F: Tearing along perforated lines of one side, as the first step of opening the mailer.

REFERRING TO FIG. 24G: Tearing along perforated lines of the other side, as the second step of opening the mailer.

REFERRING TO FIG. 24H: Mailer has been opened and unfolded by the recipient.

REFERRING TO FIG. 24I: Second (reply) mailer is produced by removing remnant of first mailer.

REFERRING TO FIG. 24J: Second mailer is fully detached.

REFERRING TO FIG. 24K: Side flaps are unbent. Reply form (second mailer) is filled out.

REFERRING TO FIG. 24L: Reply form is being folded for sealing.

REFERRING TO FIG. 24M: Flaps are folded by outer score lines. Response is sealed. (front view) Pre-printed indicia is shown.

REFERRING TO FIG. 24N: Response is sealed (rear view.)]

14th EMBODIMENT EXAMPLE: [FIG. 25A thorough FIG. 25O inclusive] FIG. 25A and FIG. 25B illustrate in a progressive manner the application of this invention to build

-Continued from page 28-

**① THE AMENDMENT HERE,
MERELY EMPHASIZES THE
DIFFERENCES BETWEEN
PRODUCTION**

and

**USE OF THE INVENTION,
DISCLOSING EXACTLY THE
SAME STRUCTURE
SEE CLAIMS 1-22**

See FIG. 24A and 24B.

Fig. 24B shows a form that was produced and was already printed. See descriptive text on page 20, 3rd and 4th paragraphs.

MARKED COPY

Substitute Specification

— Page 29 of 31 —

Application of Luis J. Rodriguez (09/978,215)

FURTHER: An Applicant may amend the specification or drawings by "making explicit a disclosure which was implicit in the application as filed. In re Wright, 343 F.2d 761. See also Helms Prods. V. Lake Shore Mfg Co., 227 F.2d ("the amendments to the specification merely render explicit what had been implicitly disclosed originally, and while new language has certainly been added, we are not prone to believe all new 'language' ipso facto as 'new matter.'")

Also, see: **MPEP 2163.06**

another two-way self sealing [mailer.] letter sheet.

REFERRING TO FIG. 25A: A die-cut sheet 207 has a message panel 264, with flaps 216, 218 and 220, and adhesive layers 202 and release layer 206; a reply mailer 244, whose limits are defined by detachment lines 234 and 236, and with flaps 246 and 248; and adhesive layers 202 and release layers 206; and an addressing panel 266.

REFERRING TO FIG. 25B: All flaps are now bent. [Mailer] Letter sheet is [now in condition

① for feeding into a printer.] shown as it is marketed.

FIGS. 25C through 25O demonstrate subsequent steps taken by the user.

FIG. 25C shows the letter sheet after it was printed by the user. FIG. 25D shows the flaps of the message panel unfolded. FIG. 25E shows the letter sheet being fan-folded for sealing.

FIG. 25F shows a more advanced stage of the folding. FIG. 25G shows the letter sheet sealed and displaying addressing information. FIG. 25H shows the letter sheet after it was opened, unfolded and some flaps were removed by recipient. FIG. 25I shows the message panel being removed by recipient. FIG. 25J shows the addressing panel being removed. FIG. 25K shows the reply portion, ready to be used. FIG. 25L shows the reply portion after it was filled out, and having its flaps unfolded. FIG. 25M shows the reply panel being folded. FIG. 25N shows the reply panel sealed (rear view). FIG. 25O shows the reply portion sealed, and displaying pre-printed indicia (back view)

[REFERRING TO FIG. 24C: A message, along with a response form for the message and addressing information has been printed.

REFERRING TO FIG. 25D: Flaps 216, 218 and 220 of message panel 264 are unbent.

REFERRING TO FIG. 25E: Mailer is being fan-folded for sealing.

REFERRING TO FIG. 25F: A later stage of the fan-folding is shown.

REFERRING TO FIG. 25G: Mailer is sealed, and ready for delivery.

REFERRING TO FIG. 25H: Mailer has been opened and unfolded by recipient.

REFERRING TO FIG. 25I: Message panel 264 is being removed.

① REGARDING "AS IT IS MARKETING"

See Fig. 25A. This condition having the pressure sensitive unexposed) is the only condition, in which it could be packaged.

This is the only condition in which it could be displayed for sale to the public. Hence, this is the only condition in which it could be marketed.

② THE AMENDMENT HERE, MERELY EMPHASIZES THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PRODUCTION

and

USE OF THE INVENTION, DISCLOSING EXACTLY THE SAME STRUCTURE

SEE CLAIMS 1-22

See FIG. 25A and 25B.

Fig. 25B shows a form that was produced and is ready to be printed. See descriptive text on page 21, 3rd and 4th paragraphs.

MARKED COPY

Substitute Specification

— Page 30 of 31 —

Application of Luis J. Rodriguez (09/978,215)

FURTHER: An Applicant may amend the specification or drawings by "making explicit a disclosure which was implicit in the application as filed. In re Wright, 343 F.2d 761. See also Helms Prods. V. Lake Shore Mfg Co., 227 F.2d ("the amendments to the specification merely render explicit what had been implicitly disclosed originally, and while new language has certainly been added, we are not prone to believe all new 'language' ipso facto as 'new matter.'")

Also, see: MPEP 2163.06

REFERRING TO FIG. 25J: Addressing panel 266 is being removed.

REFERRING TO FIG. 25K: Reply form is obtained.

REFERRING TO FIG. 25L: Reply is filled out. Flaps are unfolded.

REFERRING TO FIG. 25M: Reply form is being folded for sealing.

REFERRING TO FIG. 25N: Reply is sealed (Front view)

REFERRING TO FIG. 25O: Reply is sealed. Pre printed indicia is shown (back view.)

ATTACHMENT 18



FREE
Business
Design

YOUR COMPANY NAME HERE
123 MAIN STREET
YOUR TOWN, STATE and ZIP

YOUR BANK NAME HERE
CITY, STATE and ZIP

1001

12-308/1123

PAY
TO THE
ORDER OF

\$

DOLLARS

MEMO

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

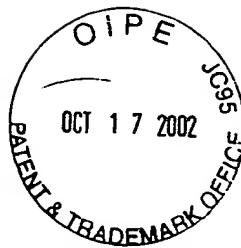
⑈001001⑈ ⑆000067896⑆ 12345678⑈

YOUR COMPANY NAME HERE

1001

YOUR COMPANY NAME HERE

1001



FREE
Business
Design

Phone 123-4567

STATEMENT

DATE
ACCOUNT NUMBER

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$

DOI: 10.1002/for

[illegible]

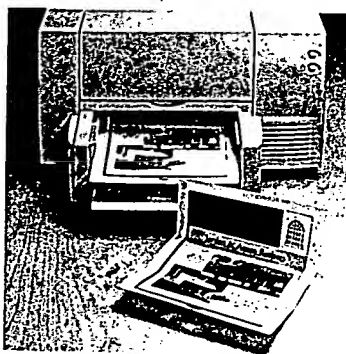
647 J. GALT, A. SUTHERLAND
ENGLAND, L. CHAPMAN

THANK YOU

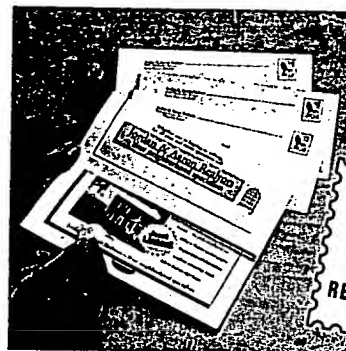
Simple steps to professional looking mailers...



1 Create your mailer. Apply color and graphics to customize your message.



2 Print both sides using your ink jet printer; you control the quantity you print (not for use with copiers).



3 Fold along the pre-scored lines, pull the cover from the adhesive, seal, apply postage and mail.

MEETS
U.S.
POSTAL
REGULATIONS



How will you use us today?™

- brochures
- flyers
- announcements
- advertisements
- invitations
- newsletters
- surveys

Self-Seal Mailer has been designed to work with today's top software programs. Use the included formatting tips for:

- Microsoft® Word
- WordPerfect®
- Microsoft® Publisher
- MySoftware Co.™ My Brochures™
- Corel Print House™
- Broderbund® PressWriter™



Office Products
Diamond Bar, CA 91765

© 1997 Avery Dennison Corporation. Made in USA.

Patent Pending
All rights reserved.

*Avery and all Avery codes are trademarks of Avery Dennison Corporation. All other brand and product names are trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective companies.



0 72782 08325 0

Product Guarantee

Avery Dennison is committed to providing you with quality products, and will gladly replace any product that does not provide complete satisfaction. We also welcome your comments and suggestions. Please send your correspondence with product code to:

Avery Dennison Office Products
Consumer Service Center
P.O. Box 5244
Diamond Bar, CA 91765-4000

Visit our web site at: <http://www.avery.com>

ATTACHMENT 21

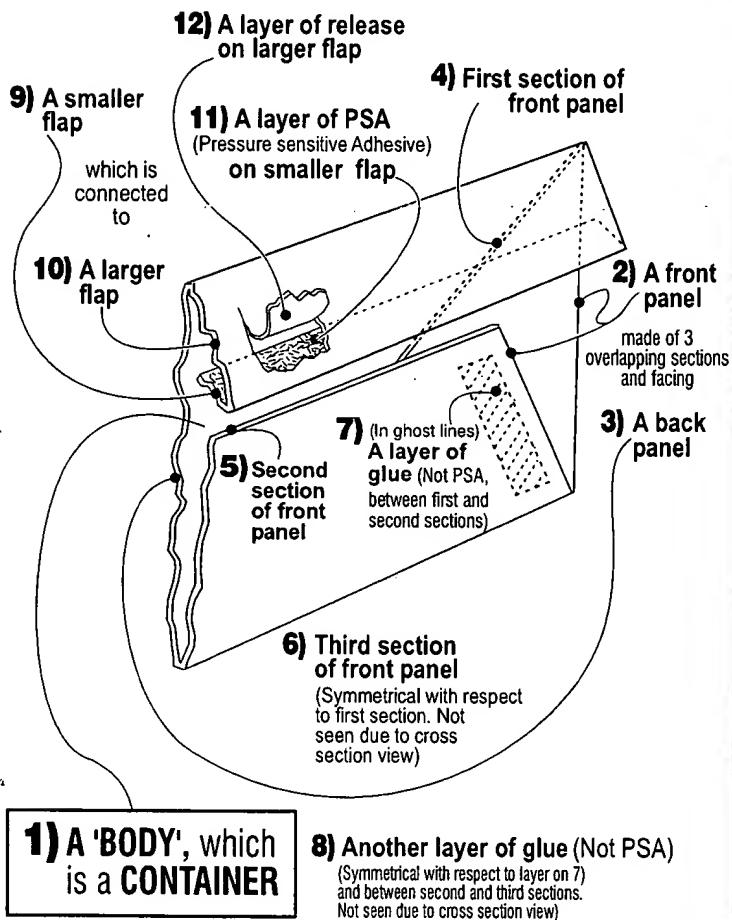
Application Number: 09/978,215
Title: Self Sealing Letter Sheets
Applicant: Luis J. Rodriguez

STRUCTURAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN "SCHIEMAN" AND THIS INVENTION

SCHIEMAN "1" First Embodiment

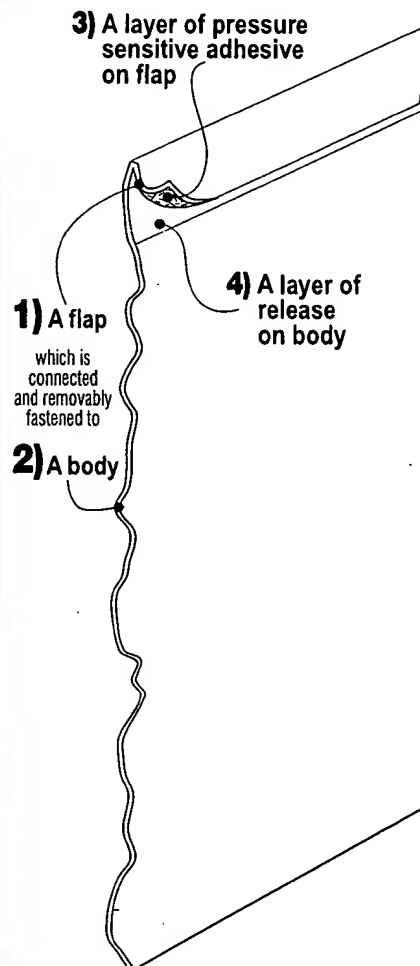
PERSPECTIVE/ CROSS SECTION

Drawing has a torn section on larger flap, so layers of adhesive and release can be shown.



THIS INVENTION Self Sealing Letter Sheets

PERSPECTIVE/CROSS SECTION



SCHIEMAN "1" First Embodiment

- 1** A "Body", which is a container
The body is made of:
- 2** A front panel, facing
- 3** A back panel,
The back panel is made of:
- 4** A first section,
- 5** A second section and
- 6** A third section
The first, second and third sections are secured together by
- 7** A layer of glue (which is not pressure sensitive adhesive) between first and second sections
- 8** A layer of glue (which is not pressure sensitive adhesive) between second and third sections
- 9** A larger flap connected to the body
(The body's flap)
- 10** A smaller flap connected to the larger flap
(The flap's flap)
- 11** A layer of pressure sensitive adhesive on smaller flap
- 12** A layer of release on larger flap

THE INVENTION Self Sealing Letter Sheets

- 1** A "Body", which is a letter sheet, and which **does not** have any facing panels
- 2** (At least) one flap **connected to the body**
(The only type of flap)
- 3** (At least) one layer of adhesive on **each** flap
- 4** (At least) one layer of release **on body**

These distinctions further translate into other structural distinctions in the PRE-USE stage:

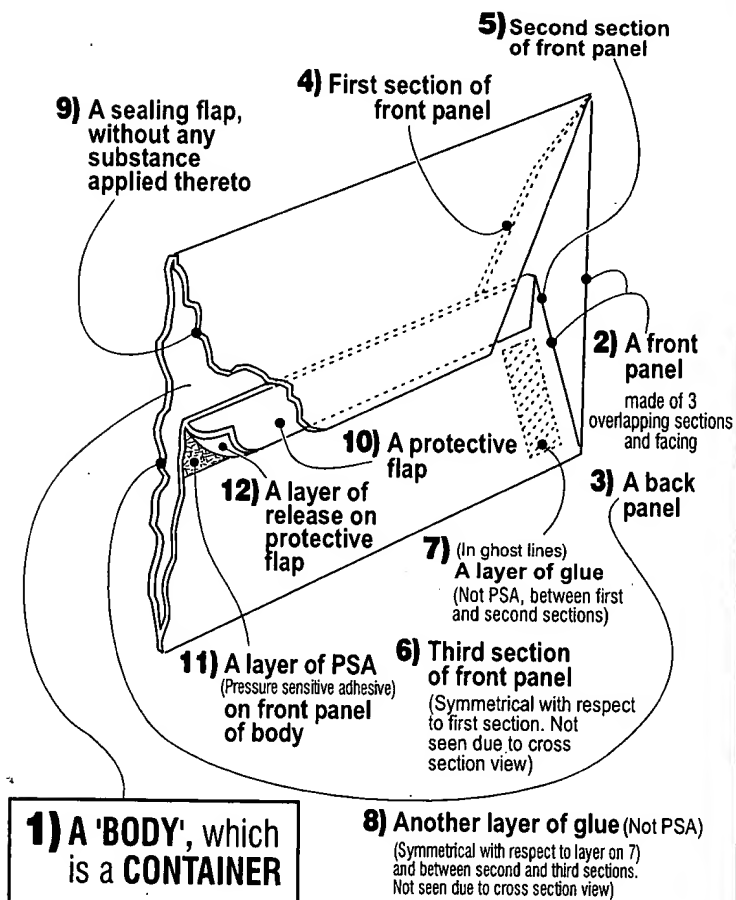
- Two different types of flaps, with different physical properties are necessary
- ONLY one flap has adhesive
- NONE of the flaps fastens temporarily to the body)
- Release layer is on larger flap
- The finished product, during the pre-use stage, requires the larger flap to face the smaller flap, and to removably fasten to it
- The finished product has a minimum total of 4 layers (see ATTACHMENT 27)
- Body does not have or need any further scores
- A heat activated glue is **always** necessary
- Regardless of the number of flaps, they are **ALWAYS** of the same kind, with the same physical properties.
- **ALL** the flaps have adhesive
- **ALL** the flaps fasten temporarily to the body
- Release layer is **ALWAYS** on body
- The finished product, during the pre-use stage, requires **ALL** the flaps to face the body and to removably fasten to it
- The finished product has a minimum total of 2 layers (see ATTACHMENT 27). **Max. Is 3 layers.**
- (Optional) scores may be applied to the body
- A heat activated glue is **NEVER** necessary.

STRUCTURAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN "SCHIEMAN" AND THIS INVENTION

SCHIEMAN "2" SECOND Embodiment

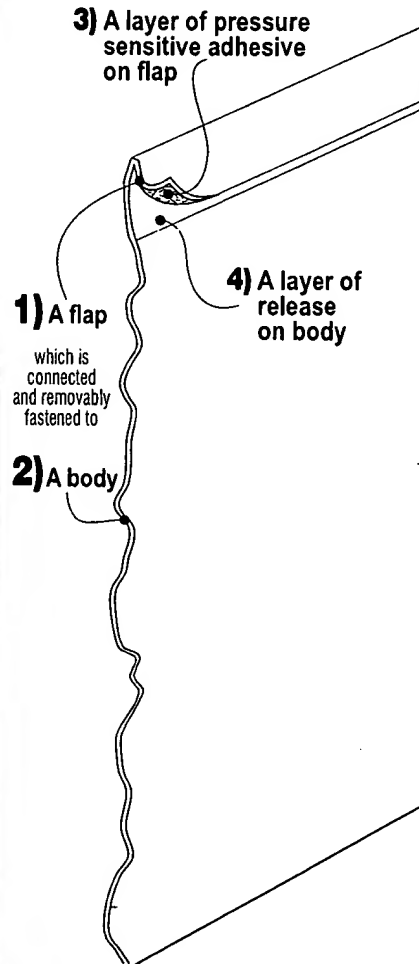
PERSPECTIVE/ CROSS SECTION

Drawing has a torn section on larger flap,
 so layers of adhesive and release can be shown.



THIS INVENTION Self Sealing Letter Sheets

PERSPECTIVE/CROSS SECTION



SCHIEMAN "2" SECOND Embodiment

- 1** A "Body", which is a container
The body is made of:
- 2** A front panel, facing
- 3** A back panel,
The back panel is made of:
- 4** A first section,
- 5** A second section and
- 6** A third section
The first, second and third sections are secured together by
- 7** A layer of glue (which is not pressure sensitive adhesive) between first and second sections
- 8** A layer of glue (which is not pressure sensitive adhesive) between second and third sections
- 9** A sealing flap, without any substance applied thereto
- 10** A protective flap
- 11** A layer of pressure sensitive adhesive on front panel of body
- 12** A layer of release on protective flap

THE INVENTION Self Sealing Letter Sheets

- 1** A "Body", which is a letter sheet, and which **does not** have any facing panels
- 2** (At least) one flap **connected to the body**
(The only type of flap)
- 3** (At least) one layer of adhesive on **each** flap
- 4** (At least) one layer of release **on body**

These distinctions further translate into other structural distinctions in the PRE-USE stage:

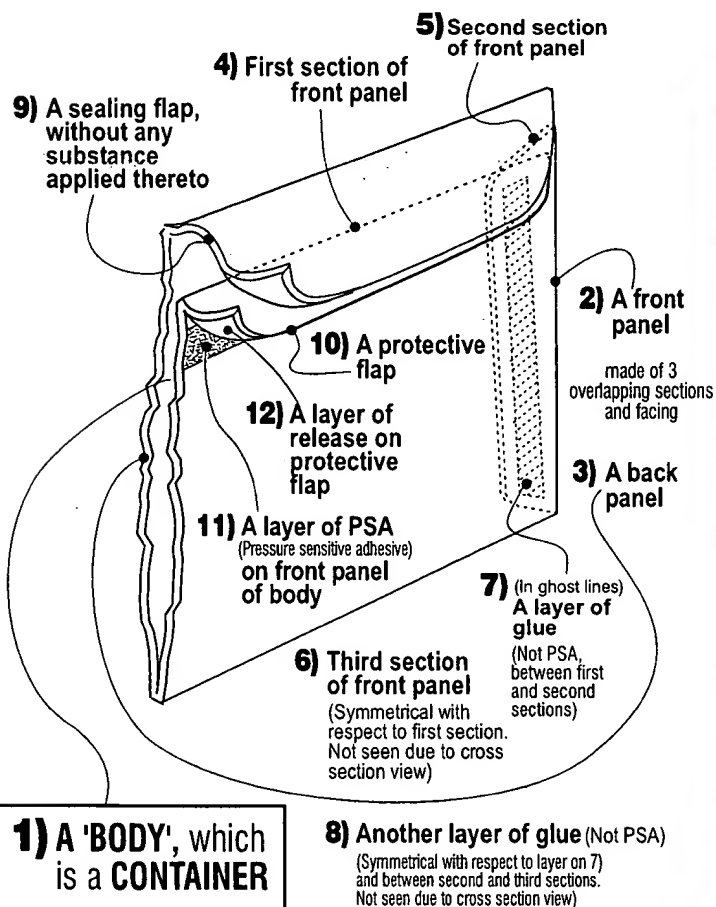
- Two different types of flaps, with different physical properties are necessary
- Sealing flap does not have adhesive, and does not have release.
- NONE of the flaps has adhesive
- ONLY one flap temporarily fastens to the body
- The finished product, during the pre-use stage, requires the larger flap to face the smaller flap, and not to be fastened to it
- The finished product has a minimum total of 5 layers (see ATTACHMENT 27)
- Body does not have or need any further scores
- A heat activated glue is **always** necessary
- Regardless of the number of flaps, they are **ALWAYS** of the same kind, with the same physical properties.
- Sealing flap (the only kind) **ALWAYS** has adhesive
- **ALL** the flaps have adhesive
- **ALL** the flaps temporarily fasten to the body
- The finished product, during the pre-use stage, requires **ALL** the flaps to face the body and to removably fasten to it
- The finished product has a minimum total of 2 layers (see ATTACHMENT 27) **Max. is 3 layers**
- (Optional) scores may be applied to the body
- A heat activated glue is **NEVER** necessary

STRUCTURAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN "WILBUR" AND THIS INVENTION

WILBUR "1" FIRST Embodiment

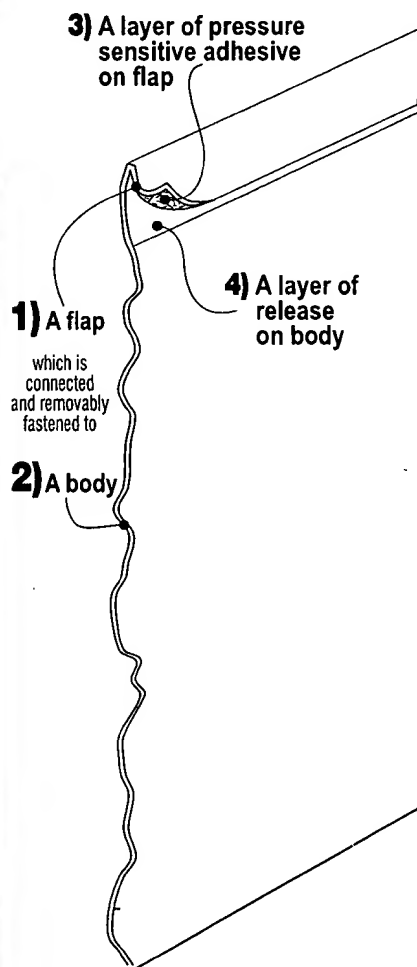
PERSPECTIVE/ CROSS SECTION

This invention has exactly the same elements and the same structural configuration as Schieman's second embodiment



THIS INVENTION Self Sealing Letter Sheets

PERSPECTIVE/CROSS SECTION



WILBUR "1" FIRST Embodiment

- 1** A "Body", which is a container
The body is made of:
- 2** A front panel, facing
- 3** A back panel,
The back panel is made of:
- 4** A first section,
- 5** A second section and
- 6** A third section
The first, second and third sections are secured together by
- 7** A layer of glue (which is not pressure sensitive adhesive) between first and second sections
- 8** A layer of glue (which is not pressure sensitive adhesive) between second and third sections
- 9** A sealing flap, without any substance applied thereto
- 10** A protective flap
- 11** A layer of pressure sensitive adhesive on front panel of body
- 12** A layer of release on protective flap

This invention has exactly the same elements and the same structural configuration as Schieman's second embodiment

THE INVENTION Self Sealing Letter Sheets

- 1** A "Body", which is a letter sheet, and which **does not** have any facing panels
- 2** (At least) one flap **connected to the body**
(The only type of flap)
- 3** (At least) one layer of adhesive on **each** flap
- 4** (At least one layer of release **on body**

These distinctions further translate into other structural distinctions in the PRE-USE stage:

- Two different types of flaps, with different physical properties are necessary
- Sealing flap does not have adhesive, and does not have release.
- **NONE** of the flaps has adhesive
- **ONLY** one flap temporarily fastens to the body
- The finished product, during the pre-use stage, requires the larger flap to face the smaller flap, and not to be fastened to it
- The finished product has a minimum total of 5 layers (see **ATTACHMENT 28**)
- Body does not have or need any further scores
- A heat activated glue is **always** necessary
- Regardless of the number of flaps, they are **ALWAYS** of the same kind, with the same physical properties.
- Sealing flap (the only kind) **ALWAYS** has adhesive
- **ALL** the flaps have adhesive
- **ALL** the flaps temporarily fasten to the body
- The finished product, during the pre-use stage, requires **ALL** the flaps to face the body and to removably fasten to it
- The finished product has a minimum total of 2 layers (see **ATTACHMENT 28**) **Max. Is 3 layers.**
- (Optional) scores may be applied to the body
- A heat activated glue is **NEVER** necessary

ATTACHMENT 24

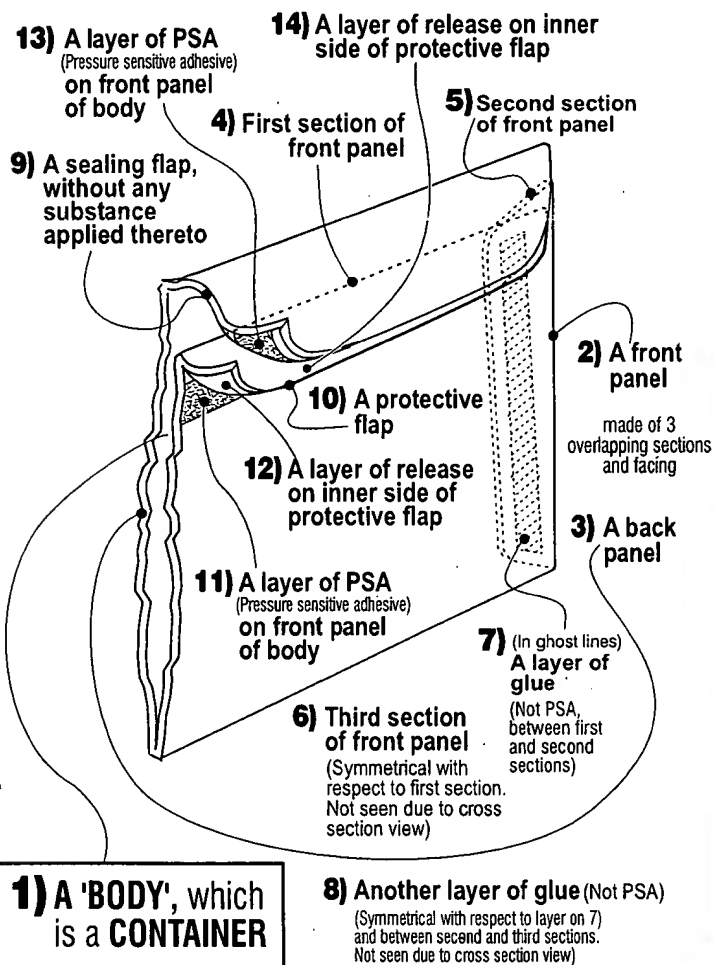
Application Number: 09/978,215
Title: Self Sealing Letter Sheets
Applicant: Luis J. Rodriguez

STRUCTURAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN "WILBUR" AND THIS INVENTION

WILBUR "2" SECOND Embodiment

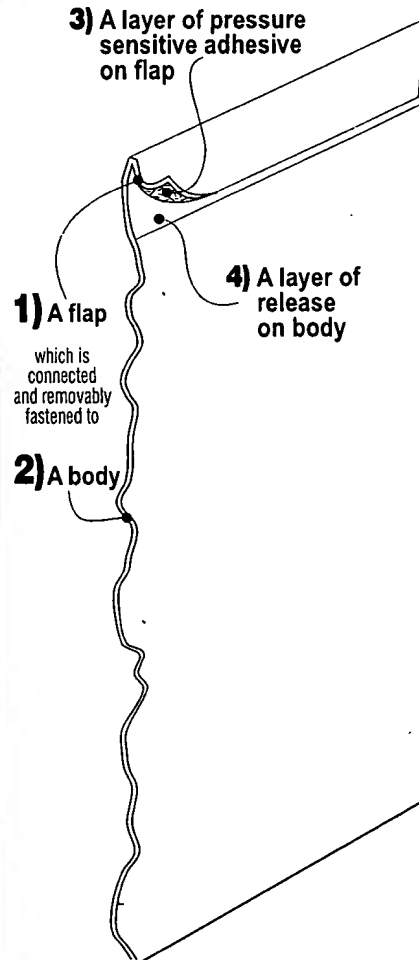
PERSPECTIVE/ CROSS SECTION

This invention has exactly the same elements and the same structural configuration as Schieman's second embodiment



THIS INVENTION Self Sealing Letter Sheets

PERSPECTIVE/CROSS SECTION



WILBUR "2" SECOND Embodiment

- 1 A "Body", which is a container
The body is made of:
- 2 A front panel, facing
- 3 A back panel,
The back panel is made of:
- 4 A first section,
- 5 A second section and
- 6 A third section
The first, second and third sections are secured together by
- 7 A layer of glue (which is not pressure sensitive adhesive) between first and second sections
- 8 A layer of glue (which is not pressure sensitive adhesive) between second and third sections
- 9 A sealing flap, without any substance applied thereto
- 10 A protective flap
- 11 A layer of pressure sensitive adhesive on front panel of body
- 12 A layer of release on protective flap

THE INVENTION Self Sealing Letter Sheets

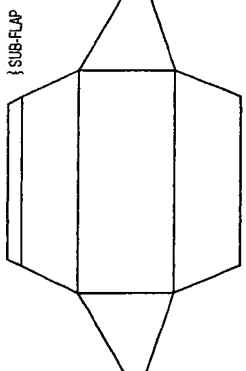
- 1 A "Body", which is a letter sheet, and which **does not** have any facing panels
- 2 (At least) one flap **connected to the body**
(The only type of flap)
- 3 (At least) one layer of adhesive on **each** flap
- 4 (At least) one layer of release **on body**

These distinctions further translate into other structural distinctions in the PRE-USE stage:

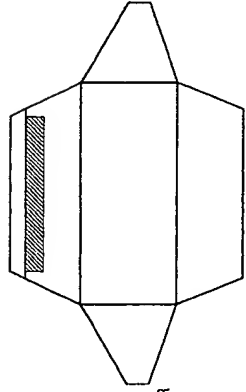
- Two different types of flaps, with different physical properties are necessary
- Sealing flap does not have adhesive, and does not have release.
- ONLY one of the flaps has adhesive
- ONLY one flap temporarily fastens to the body
- The finished product, during the pre-use stage, requires the larger flap to face the smaller flap, and to be temporarily fastened to it
- The finished product has a minimum total of 5 layers (see ATTACHMENT 28)
- One flap temporarily fastens to the other flap
- Body does not have or need any further scores
- A heat activated glue is **always** necessary
- Regardless of the number of flaps, they are **ALWAYS** of the same kind, with the same physical properties.
- Sealing flap (the only kind) **ALWAYS** has adhesive
- **ALL** the flaps have adhesive
- **ALL** the flaps temporarily fasten to the body
- The finished product, during the pre-use stage, requires **ALL** the flaps to face the body and to removably fasten to it
- The finished product has a minimum total of 2 layers (see ATTACHMENT 28) **Max. Is 3 layers**
- Flaps do not temporarily fasten among themselves
- (Optional) scores may be applied to the body
- A heat activated glue is **NEVER** necessary

I. CONSTRUCTION OF SHIEMAN'S ENVELOPE (1st EMBODIMENT, FIGS. 1-4) COMPARED TO SELF SEALING FORM (09/978,215) ADDITIONS TO ATTACHMENT 11A
II. DEFINING PURPOSE OF: SCHIEMAN'S ENVELOPE vs. SELF SEALING FORM (09/978,215)

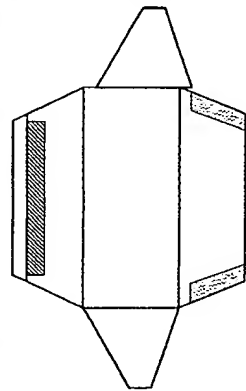
SHIEMAN'S ENVELOPE/ FIRST EMBODIMENT, FIGS 1-4



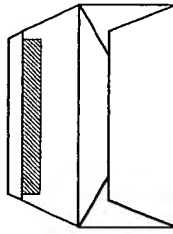
1.1 Envelope is cut and scored



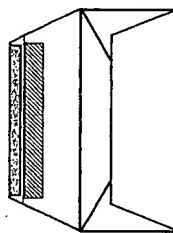
1.2 Repellent (Adhesive inhibitor) is applied



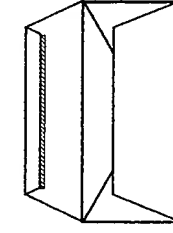
1.3 Construction Adhesive is applied



1.4 Envelope is assembled

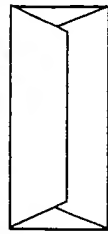


1.5 Sealing adhesive (PSA) is applied



1.6 Sub-flap is bent to protect adhesive

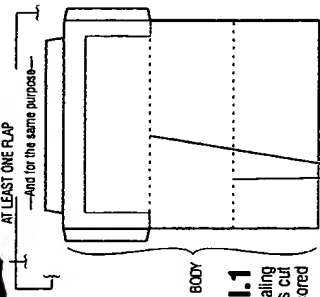
THIS IS SCHIEMAN'S FINAL PRODUCT. As indicated in Attachment 5, Schieman's product has a Back Wall (Back Panel) and a Front Wall (Front Panel), to form a container. *And it further has a two part flap.*



1.7 Flap—including sub-flap—is bent against front wall of container

STRUCTURAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PRODUCTS

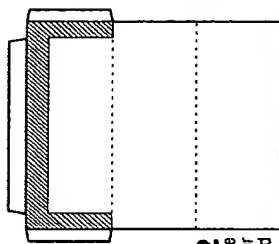
Products are compared after they are manufactured and offered to the public. Any 'USE' consideration, is excluded, as all claims in this application are 'product' claims



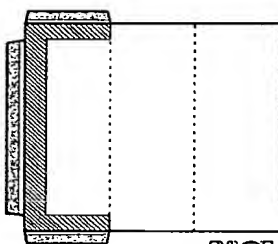
I.1 Self Sealing Form is cut and scored

SCORE LINES ARE DISPENSABLE. Please see in original specification, page 12, para. 4, last sentence: "Score or folding lines may also be substituted by printed guides, or may simply be omitted."

1.4 Flaps are folded against the body



I.2 Adhesive inhibitor is applied



I.3 Sealing adhesive (PSA) is applied

THIS IS 09/978,215'S FINAL PRODUCT.

As indicated in Attachment 5, This invention has only a body, and at least one flap. It does not have any 'facing' panels' and it does not form a container. It does not even require any score lines. *And further, its at least one flap, is always a single part flap.*

II. Self Sealing Form is now ready to receive imprinting of:

- 1) a private message
- 2) addressing information

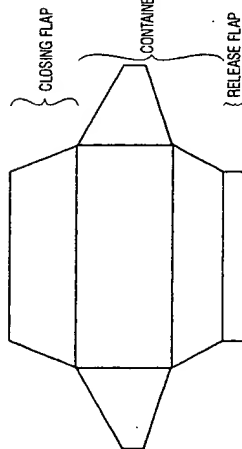
All in one production step, and one trip of the form across the printer.

See Figs. 7C, 9C, 10D-10F, 12C, 14B-14D, 17B-17D, 23B-23D, 24B-24E, 25C-25G

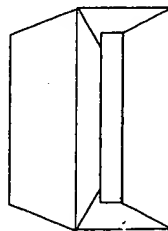
ATTACHMENT 26 **I. CONSTRUCTION OF SHIEMAN'S ENVELOPE** (2nd EMBODIMENT, FIGS. 5-7) **II. DEFINING PURPOSE OF: SCHIEMAN'S ENVELOPE VS. SELF SEALING FORM** (09/978,215)

RED INDICATES ADDITIONS TO ATTACHMENT 11B

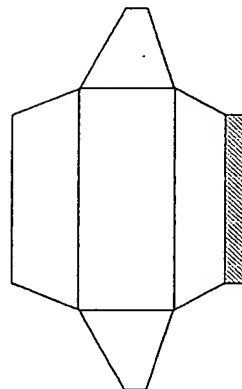
SHIEMAN'S ENVELOPE/ SECOND EMBODIMENT, FIGS 5-7



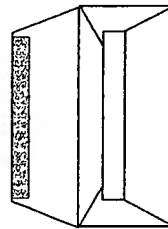
I.1 Envelope is cut and scored



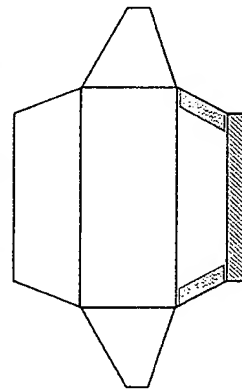
I.4 Envelope is assembled



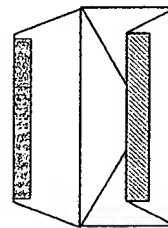
I.2 Repellent (Adhesive inhibitor) is applied



I.5 Sealing adhesive (PSA) is applied

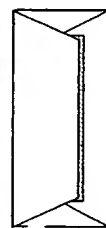


I.3 Construction Adhesive is applied



I.6 Sub-flap is bent to protect adhesive

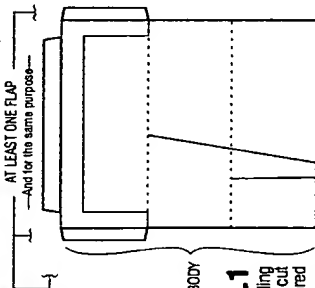
THIS IS SCHIEMAN'S FINAL PRODUCT. As indicated in Attachment 5, Schieman's product has a Back Wall (Back Panel) and a Front Wall (Front Panel), to form a container. And it further has a two part flap.



I.7 Flap -including sub-flap- is bent against front wall of container

STRUCTURAL DIFFERENCES BETWEEN PRODUCTS

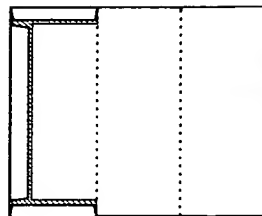
Products are compared after they are manufactured and offered to the public. Any 'USE' consideration, is excluded, as all claims in this application are 'product' claims



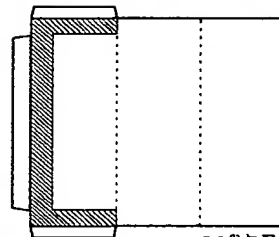
I.1 Self Sealing Form is cut and scored

SCORE LINES ARE DISPENSABLE.

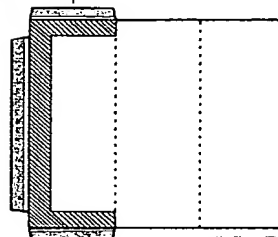
Please see in original specification, page 12, para. 4, last sentence: "Score or folding lines may also be substituted by printed guides, or may simply be omitted."



I.4 Flaps are folded against the body



I.2 Adhesive inhibitor is applied



I.3 Sealing adhesive (PSA) is applied

THIS IS 09/978,215's FINAL PRODUCT.

As indicated in Attachment 5, This invention has only a body, and at least one flap. It does not have any 'facing' panels and it does not form a container. It does not even require any score lines. And further, it's at least one flap, is always a single part flap.

II. Self Sealing Form is now ready to receive imprinting of:

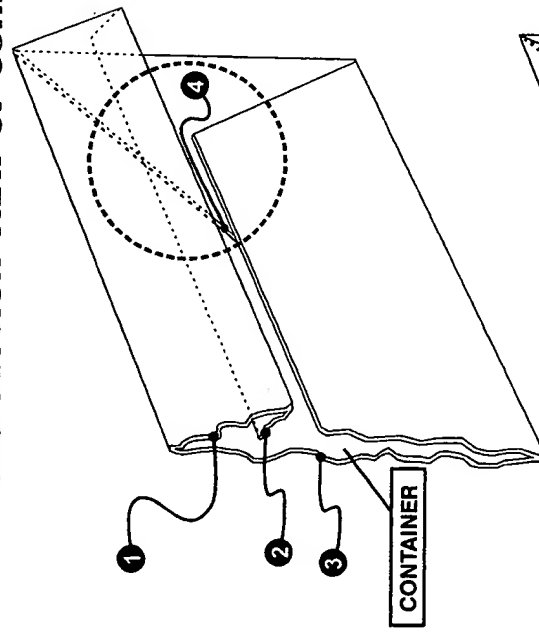
- 1) a private message
- 2) addressing information

All in one production step, and one trip of the form across the printer.

See Figs. 7C, 9C, 10D-10F, 12C, 148-14D, 17B-17D, 23B-23D, 24B-24E, 25C-25G

RED INDICATES ADDITIONS TO ATTACHMENT 16

CROSS SECTION VIEW OF SCHIEMAN'S ENVELOPE

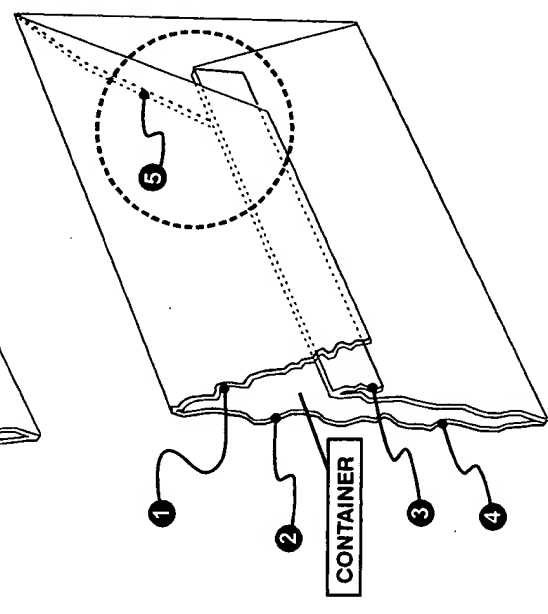


1st EMBODIMENT

(See Schieman's Figs. 1-4)

Circled area shows the portion of Schieman's envelope with 4 (four) overlapping layers. This, of course, also occurs on the left side of the envelope (not shown).

This excessive thickness will obstruct the proper feeding of the envelope trough most types of printers.

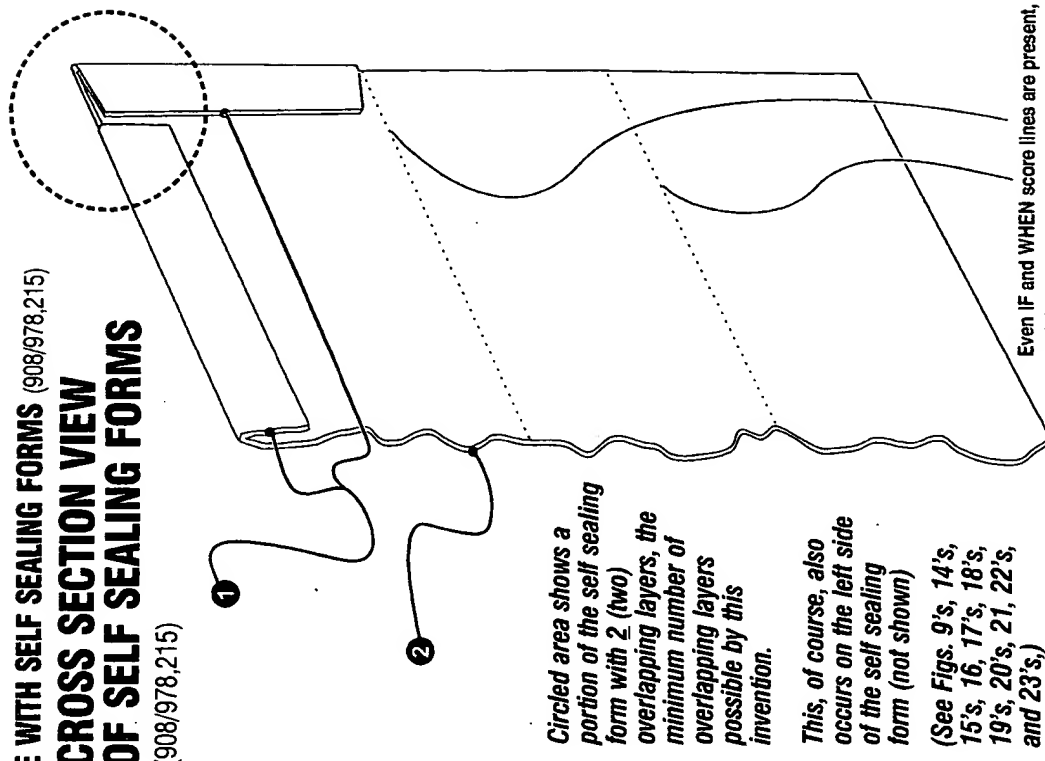


2nd EMBODIMENT

(See Schieman's Figs. 5-7)

Circled area shows the portion of Schieman's envelope with 5 (five) overlapping layers. This, of course, also occurs on the left side of the envelope (not shown).

This excessive thickness will obstruct the proper feeding of the envelope trough most types of printers.



Circled area shows a portion of the self sealing form with 2 (two) overlapping layers, the minimum number of overlapping layers possible by this invention.

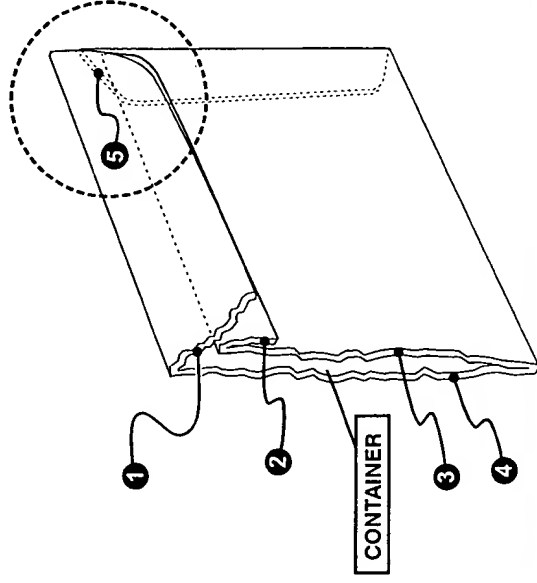
This, of course, also occurs on the left side of the self sealing form (not shown)

(See Figs. 9's, 14's, 15's, 16, 17's, 18's, 19's, 20's, 21, 22's, and 23's.)

Even IF and WHEN score lines are present, and the sections produced thereby are called "panels", it is very clear that these "panels" do not equate to Schieman's facing panels, that are connected together by a layer of glue, to form a container, during the Pre-Use stage of the product.

As article claims, all the claims in this application are directed to the Pre-Use stage.

CROSS SECTION VIEW OF WILBUR'S ENVELOPE

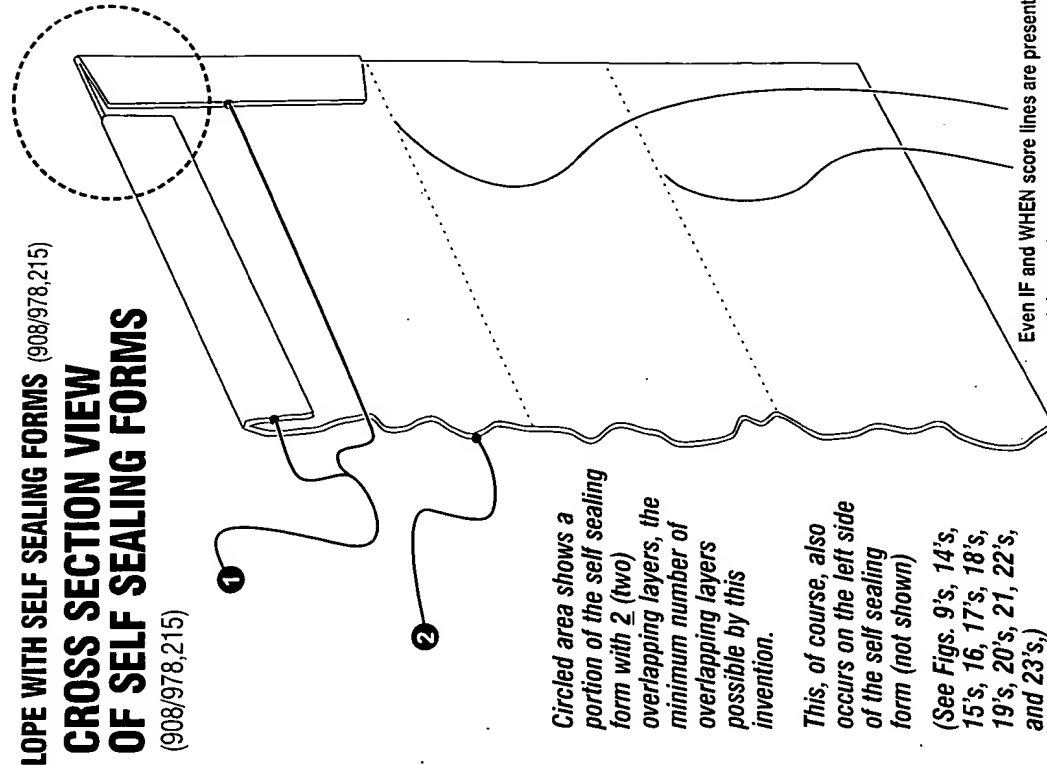


BOTH REMBODIMENTS

THE DIFFERENCE IN THE EMBODIMENTS IS THE ARRANGEMENT OF THE LAYERS OF ADHESIVE AND RELEASE SUBSTANCES

Circled area shows the portion of Wilbur's envelope with 5 (five) overlapping layers. This, of course, also occurs on the left side of the envelope (not shown).

This excessive thickness will obstruct the proper feeding of the envelope trough most types of printers.



Circled area shows a portion of the self sealing form with 2 (two) overlapping layers, the minimum number of overlapping layers possible by this invention.

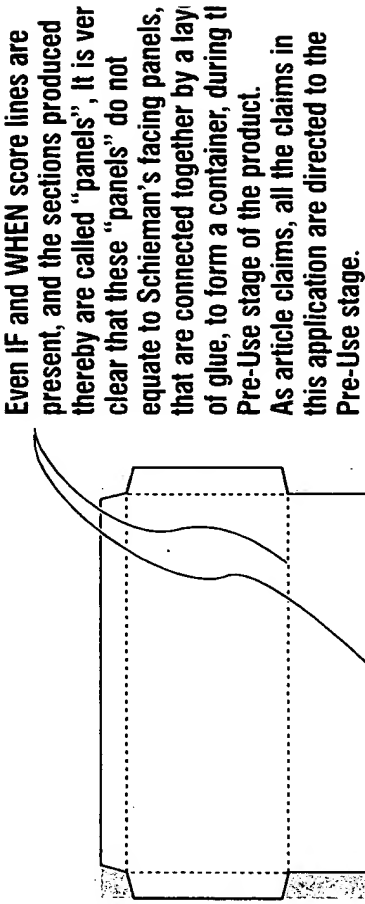
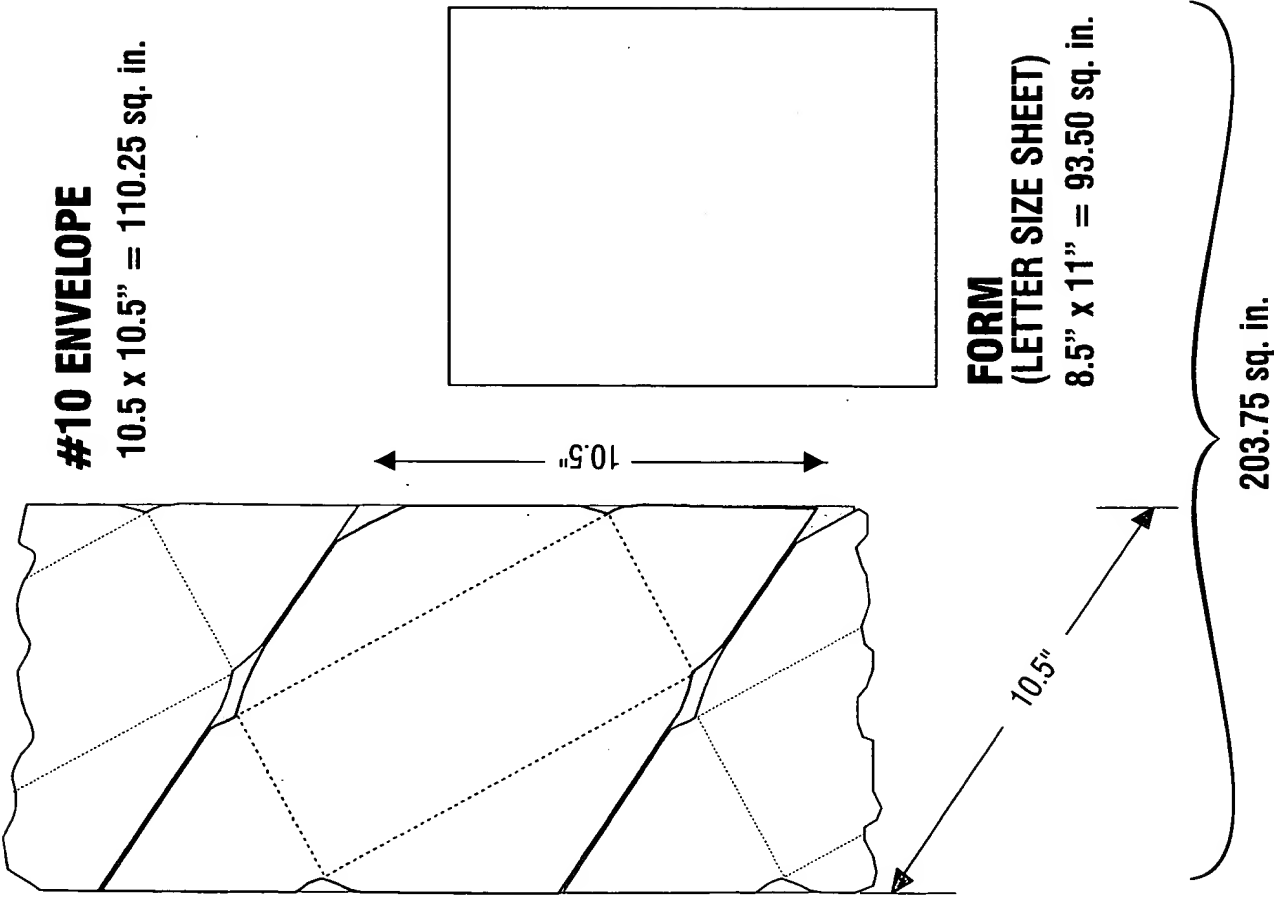
This, of course, also occurs on the left side of the self sealing form (not shown)

(See Figs. 9's, 14's, 15's, 16, 17's, 18's, 19's, 20's, 21, 22's, and 23's.)

Even IF and WHEN score lines are present, and the sections produced thereby are called "panels", it is very clear that these "panels" do not equate to Schleman's facing panels, that are connected together by a layer of glue, to form a container, during the Pre-Use stage of the product.

As article claims, all the claims in this application are directed to the Pre-Use stage.

COMPARISON OF PAPER USED RED INDICATES ADDITIONS TO ATTACHMENT 4
ENVELOPE + FORM VS. SELF SEALING FORM (09/978,215)



SELF SEALING FORM
(09/978,215)

10" x 11.5" = 115 sq. in.

ENVELOPE + FORM.....	203.75 sq. in.
SELF SEALING FORM....	115.00 sq. in. (09/978,215)
DIFFERENCE.....	88.75 sq. in.

PAPER SAVINGS **43.56%**

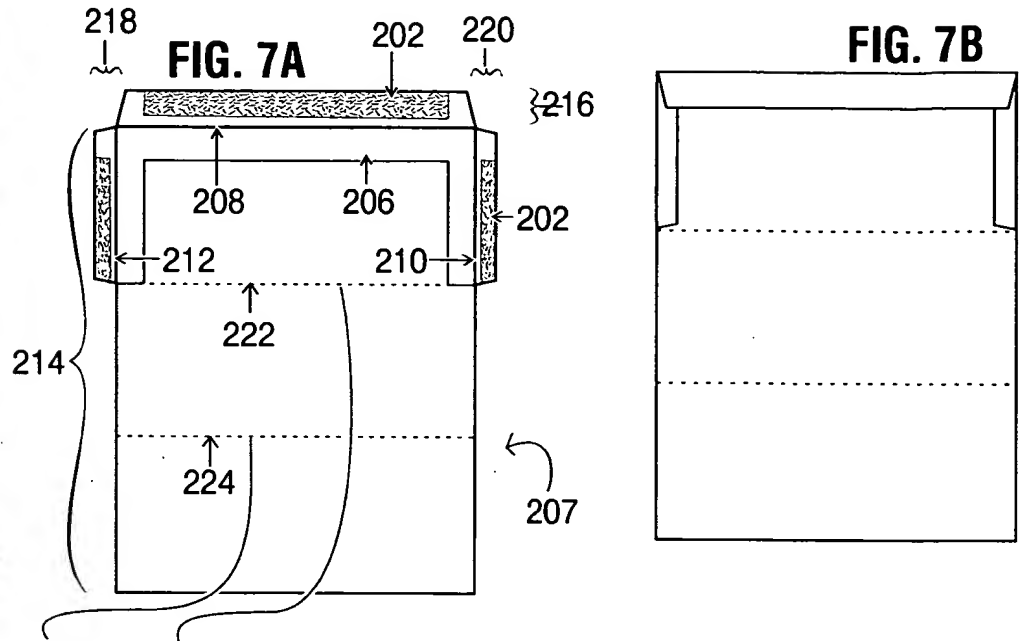
As a result, other significant savings are possible in packaging, storing, transporting, displaying, and then the user also enjoys savings in storing, printing and mailing.

ATTACHMENT 30

Comments to FIRST EMBODIMENT EXAMPLE

RED INDICATES ADDITIONS TO ATTACHMENT 13

THESE TWO
FIGURES
(FIGS. 7A and 7B)
DESCRIBE
THE CLAIMED
PRODUCT



SCORE LINES ARE DISPENSABLE. Please see in original specification, page 12, para. 4, last sentence:
"Score or folding lines may also be substituted by printed guides, or may simply be omitted."

THESE FOUR
FIGURES
(FIGS. 7C-7F)
TEACH
THE MODE
OF USING THE
MANUFACTURED
PRODUCT

They represent **STEPS**,
related to the function of the
invention, and are disclosed
in the specification to teach
how to use the invention.
Therefore, even if they were
recited in the claims, they
do not constitute
a structural element.

FIG. 7C

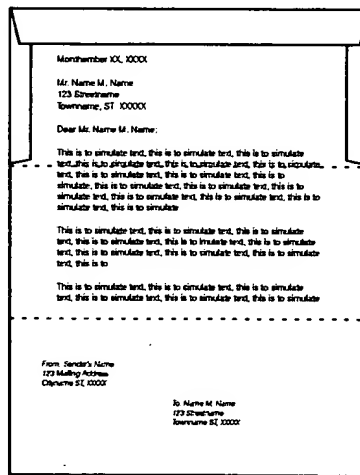


FIG. 7D

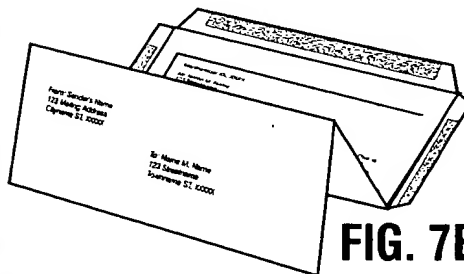
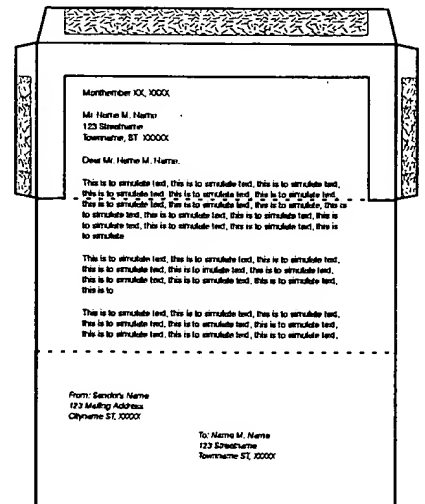


FIG. 7E

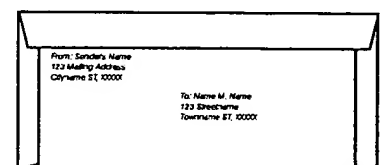


FIG. 7F

45) A self sealing letter sheet, so structured as to enable:



1) a private message and

2) a discretionary non-private message,

so the need for an envelope is eliminated,

said self sealing letter sheet comprising:

a) a blank of a sheet material, further comprising:

b) at least one mono-sectional flap,

c) a mono-sectional body,

d) at least one layer of adhesive, and at least one layer of adhesive inhibitor applied to said blank of a sheet material, in such a manner that when each of said at least one mono-sectional flap is in contact with said mono-sectional body, said at least one layer of adhesive faces said at least one layer of adhesive inhibitor, whereby each of said at least one mono-sectional flap and said mono-sectional body can be removably fastened to one another,

whereby said self sealing letter sheet is manufactured,

and whereby the user can input said private message and said discretionary non-private message, and subsequently fold said body and seal said self sealing letter sheet.

- 46)** The self sealing letter sheet of claim **45)**, wherein said body further comprises at least one score line to aid the user to fold said body.
- 47)** The self sealing letter sheet of claim **45)**, wherein said sheet material is paper, said adhesive is pressure sensitive adhesive, and said adhesive inhibitor is a release substance.
- 48)** The self sealing letter sheet of claim **45)**, wherein said self sealing letter sheet is one of a continuous assembly of detachable self sealing letter sheets.
- 49)** The self sealing letter sheet of claim **45)** wherein said self sealing letter sheet further comprises means for detachment of a section of said self sealing letter sheet, and said section further comprises:
- e)** at least one mono-sectional flap,
 - f)** a mono-sectional body,
 - g)** at least one layer of adhesive, and at least one layer of adhesive inhibitor applied to said section, in such a manner that when each of said at least one mono-sectional flap is in contact with said mono-sectional body, said at least one layer of adhesive faces said at least one layer of adhesive inhibitor, whereby each of said at least one mono-sectional flap and said mono-sectional body can be removably fastened to one another,
- whereby a detachable subordinate self sealing letter sheet is produced.

50) A self sealing letter sheet, comprising:

a) at least one flap,

b) a rectangular body,

c) at least one layer of an adhesive substance applied to each of said at least one flap,

d) at least one layer of an adhesive inhibitor substance applied to said rectangular body,

so when said at least one flap is placed in contact with said at least one body, each of said at least one flap is temporarily connected to said rectangular body, whereby

said self sealing letter sheet is manufactured.

51) The self sealing letter sheet of claim **50)**, wherein said rectangular body further comprises at least one score line to aid the user to fold said rectangular body.

52) The self sealing letter sheet of claim **50)**, wherein said self sealing letter sheet is one of a continuous assembly of detachable self sealing letter sheets.

The self sealing letter sheet of claim **50)** wherein said self sealing letter sheet further comprises means for detachment of a section of said rectangular body, and said section further comprises:

e) at least one flap,

f) a rectangular subordinate body,

g) at least one layer of an adhesive substance applied to each of said at least one flap,

h) at least one layer of an adhesive inhibitor substance applied to said rectangular subordinate body,

so when said at least one flap is placed in contact with said rectangular subordinate body, each of said at least one flap is temporarily connected to said rectangular subordinate body, whereby

a detachable subordinate self sealing letter sheet is produced.

A self sealing letter sheet, folded so it comprises:

1) a first ply and

2) a second ply,

wherein said first ply is a body,

and said second ply is at least one flap, overlapping said first ply,

further comprising:

a) at least one layer of adhesive on said second ply, and

b) at least one layer of adhesive inhibitor on said first ply,

arranged so when said at least one layer of adhesive is in contact with said at least one layer of adhesive inhibitor, said second ply is temporarily fastened to said first ply, whereby said self sealing letter sheet is produced.

55) The self sealing letter sheet of claim **54)**, wherein said body further comprises at least one score line to aid the user to fold said body.

56) The self sealing letter sheet of claim **54)**, wherein said self sealing letter sheet is one of a continuous assembly of detachable self sealing letter sheets.

57) The self sealing letter sheet of claim **54)**, wherein said self sealing letter sheet further comprises means for detachment of a section of said self sealing letter sheet, and said section is folded so it further comprises:

1a) a first ply and

2a) a second ply,

wherein said first ply is a body,

and said second ply is at least one flap, overlapping said first ply,

further comprising:

c) at least one layer of adhesive on said second ply,

d) and at least one layer of adhesive inhibitor on said first ply,

arranged so when said at least one layer of adhesive on said second ply is in contact with said at least one layer of adhesive inhibitor on said first ply; said second ply is temporarily fastened to said first ply, whereby a detachable subordinate self sealing letter sheet is produced.

58) The self sealing letter sheet of claim **57)**, wherein said body further comprises at least one score line to aid the user to fold said body.

59) The self sealing letter sheet of claim **54)**, wherein said self sealing letter sheet further comprises a third ply, wherein said third ply is at least one flap partially overlapping said second ply and partially overlapping said first ply.

61) The self sealing letter sheet of claim **59)**, wherein said body further comprises at least one score line to aid the user to fold said body.

62) A self sealing form, comprising:

a) a sheet material cut into such a shape that a body and at least one flap are obtained,

b) at least one coating of a fastener and at least one coating of a fastener inhibitor, applied to said sheet material, in such a manner that when each of said at least one flap overlaps said body, said at least one layer of a fastener faces said at least one layer of a fastener inhibitor,

whereby each of said at least one flap fastens to said body in a temporary fashion, and

whereby said self sealing form is manufactured, and is ready to be used.

63) The self sealing form of claim **62)**, wherein said sheet material is paper, said fastener is an adhesive substance and said fastener inhibitor is an adhesive inhibitor substance.

- 64)** The self sealing form of claim 63), wherein said adhesive substance is a pressure sensitive adhesive substance, and said adhesive inhibitor substance is a release substance.
- 65)** The self sealing form of claim 62), wherein said self sealing form is one of a continuous assembly of detachable forms.
- 66)** The self sealing form of claim 62), wherein said body further comprises at least one score line to aid the user to fold said body.
- 67)** The self sealing form of claim 62) wherein said self sealing form further comprises means for detachment of a section of said self sealing form, and said section further comprises:
- c)** a body and at least one flap,
 - d)** at least one coating of a fastener and at least one coating of a fastener inhibitor, applied to said section of said self sealing form, in such a manner that when each of said at least one flap overlaps said body, said at least one layer of a fastener faces said at least one layer of a fastener inhibitor,
- whereby each of said at least one flap fastens to said body in a temporary fashion,
- whereby a detachable subordinate form is produced.

68) A self sealing letter sheet folded so it comprises:

a) a body and

b) at least one flap,

at least one layer of a repositionable adhesive **204** and at least one layer of a dry adhesive **202**, wherein said dry adhesive **202** is susceptible to become active upon being moistened,

and wherein said at least one layer of a repositionable adhesive **204** and said at least one layer of a dry adhesive **202** are disposed so when said at least one flap and said body are in contact **[to]** with one another, said repositionable adhesive **204** and said dry adhesive **202** avoid facing one another, and said at least one flap and said body are fastened to one another in a temporary fashion by the action of said repositionable adhesive **204**, whereby said self sealing letter sheet is produced and is now ready to be used.

69) The self sealing letter sheet of claim **68)**, wherein said self sealing letter sheet is one of a continuous assembly of detachable letter sheets.

70) The self sealing letter sheet of claim **68)**, wherein said body further comprises at least one score line to aid the user to fold said body.

**This Page is Inserted by IFW Indexing and Scanning
Operations and is not part of the Official Record**

BEST AVAILABLE IMAGES

Defective images within this document are accurate representations of the original documents submitted by the applicant.

Defects in the images include but are not limited to the items checked:

- ☐ BLACK BORDERS
- ☒ IMAGE CUT OFF AT TOP, BOTTOM OR SIDES
- ☐ FADED TEXT OR DRAWING
- ☐ BLURRED OR ILLEGIBLE TEXT OR DRAWING
- ☐ SKEWED/SLANTED IMAGES
- ☐ COLOR OR BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS
- ☐ GRAY SCALE DOCUMENTS
- ☐ LINES OR MARKS ON ORIGINAL DOCUMENT
- ☒ REFERENCE(S) OR EXHIBIT(S) SUBMITTED ARE POOR QUALITY
- ☐ OTHER: _____

IMAGES ARE BEST AVAILABLE COPY.

As rescanning these documents will not correct the image problems checked, please do not report these problems to the IFW Image Problem Mailbox.